

# STARS AND STRIPES®

**Johnson fourth  
to strike out  
4,000 hitters**

Page 30

Diamondbacks' Randy Johnson



**What's your Scene?  
Learn more from  
Stripes' publisher**

Page 3



**Actress Mathis  
catches on in  
family business**

Page 22

Samantha Mathis

Volume 2, No.82 © EPSS 2004 MIDEAST EDITION

THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2004

# Anthrax, smallpox shots to be expanded

DOD planning to immunize more troops in CENTCOM, Pacific

Page 11



## Tensions smoldering

**Mortar attack  
wounds 11 GIs  
at base near  
Baghdad airport**

Page 6

AP  
An American soldier surveys the damage after a mortar attack Wednesday wounded 11 U.S. soldiers at Log Base Seitz, an Army logistics compound on the outskirts of Baghdad. Two of the injured were evacuated by helicopter, but all were expected to survive. The attack started a fire that burned for well over an hour.

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news

### States

**Embryo settlement:** A white woman, Donna Fasnano, who was the unwitting surrogate mother for a black baby has settled her lawsuit against a fertility clinic that mistakenly implanted a black couple's embryo in her uterus.

A doctor admitted he put some of the fertilized embryos of the black woman, Deborah Perry-Rogers, into a catheter that was used to implant the embryos of Fasnano, according to court papers.

Fasnano became pregnant and gave birth to two boys — one white and one black. Perry-Rogers was implanted only with her own fertilized eggs; none of those produced a fetus. The Fasnanos gave the black baby to the Rogerses.

**Michael Jackson case:** Michael Jackson's attorneys asked a judge in Los Angeles on Tuesday to seal several motions in the child molestation case, including their request that the indictment against the pop star be thrown out.

The motion by defense attorney Robert Sanger said the documents would disclose "the testimony of witnesses or potential witnesses and disclose possible evidence" that may not be admitted at trial.

Ted Butrous, an attorney for news organizations covering the case, argues the public had a right to see them to decide if the court was being fair.

**Mad cow tests inconclusive:** The Agriculture Department on Tuesday received an "inconclusive" preliminary screening on a second animal indicating possible mad cow disease, but officials cautioned the test is so sensitive it does not mean another case has been found.

It's the second such discovery in five days as parts of the government's rapid screening program. The only confirmed mad cow case in this country was discovered in Washington state last December, prompting more sophisticated screening programs.

**Philadelphia mayor:** Nearly nine months after an FBI bug was discovered in the mayor's office, a former city treasurer, a powerful city lawyer and 10 others were indicted in a municipal corruption investigation.

The probe became public in October, when police conducting a security sweep discovered an FBI listening device in the city Hall office of Mayor John F. Street, who has not been charged with any wrongdoing.

The latest indictment, announced Tuesday, alleges that in 2002 and 2003, attorney Ronald A. White gave cash and gifts worth tens of thousands of dollars to then-Treasurer Carey Kemp to influence which financial services companies were selected to handle bond transactions for the city.

**God back in oath:** The North Carolina Supreme Court ordered a judge Tuesday to restore references to God in the words used when he enters the courtroom and when witnesses swear to tell the truth.

The high court sided with angry officials from two counties who complained that District Judge James M. Honeycutt had taken



**Israel barrier wall:** Backdropped by a section of the separation barrier being built by Israel, a Palestinian boy plays ball on the roof of his house in the West Bank town of Bethlehem on Wednesday. Israel's Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that Israel will have to change the route of its barrier in a 40-kilometer section in a different area north of Jerusalem as the barrier current route causes "severe injury" to the life of Palestinian residents.

it upon himself to change courtroom procedures. Honeycutt presides over district courts in four counties south of Winston-Salem.

**Carnahan crash:** The family of the late Missouri Gov. Mel Carnahan ended efforts to win punitive damages in the October 2000 plane crash that killed the governor, his son and an aide, the family's attorney said.

A jury in January found aircraft parts manufacturer Parker Hannifin Corp. of Cleveland liable for \$4 million in actual damages but rejected the family's request for punitive damages.

The lawsuit contended that faulty vacuum pumps failed and cut power to instruments used by Randy Carnahan, pilot of the small plane carrying his father and aide Chris Sifford from the St. Louis area to southeastern Missouri for a campaign event.

**Gay marriage:** A federal appeals court Tuesday rejected an attempt by conservative groups and state lawmakers to stop gay marriage in Massachusetts.

The Florida-based Liberty Counsel, which launched the lawsuit, said it would appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The plaintiffs had argued that Massachusetts' high court usurped the power of the Legislature — and thereby violated the U.S. Constitution — when it ruled last year that gay couples are entitled to wed.

### Business

**Microsoft settlement:** Massachusetts consumers could receive as much as \$34 million worth of computer products, while North Dakota consumers could get as much as \$9 million in separate, proposed settlements of class-action lawsuits accusing Microsoft Corp. of violating each state's anti-trust laws.

Under settlements approved Tuesday, Massachusetts and North Dakota would become the 11th and 12th states with which the Redmond, Wash.-based software giant

has reached such an agreement.

The Massachusetts settlement, filed in Middlesex Superior Court, won preliminary approval from Superior Court Judge Judith Fabricant on Monday — the same day a judge in Arizona approved a similar settlement there that has a maximum value of \$104.6 million.

### World

**Terror suspect:** A Moroccan terrorism suspect accused by Spanish authorities of being linked to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the United States has been arrested in Britain.

Farid Hilali, 35, appeared at Bow Street Magistrates Court in London on Monday and was ordered held without bail on a European arrest warrant requested by Spain, the Crown Prosecution Service said.

**Clashes in Riyadh:** A shootout in the Saudi capital, Riyadh, on Wednesday killed two militants and one policeman, a security official said, adding that at least one militant fled the scene.

The official said the clash occurred in the open in the neighborhood's al-Waqar Street and police were hunting for a militant that fled the scene in a stolen car.

**U.N. helicopter crash:** The U.N. peace-keeping mission in Sierra Leone grounded some helicopters Wednesday, police said, after a crash carrying its personnel crashed, killing 24 peacekeepers, aid workers and others killed in the incident.

A radio channel for the 10,800-strong U.N. peace mission in Sierra Leone broadcast hymns and phoned-in expressions of sorrow for the victims, who died Tuesday when their U.N.-chartered Mi-8 slammed into a remote hill in the east.

The victims included 14 Pakistani peacekeepers, one Bangladeshi peacekeeper, three Russian crew and six civilians, including one local U.N. staffer, said Marie Okabe, a spokeswoman at U.N. headquarters in New York.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

### Correction

A caption for a photo on Tuesday of a memorial ceremony in Baghdad misidentified the soldiers unveiling a plaque honoring 1st Armored Division task force members. They were Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Bush, left, the 1st Armored Division command sergeant major, and Spc. Romulo Escobedo, also with the 1st AD.

Comics, horoscopes  
and advice every day  
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# Iraq has legal custody of Saddam

## Former leader, 11 others to appear in court Thursday

By FISNIK ABRASHI  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The Iraqis took legal custody of Saddam Hussein and 11 of his top lieutenants Wednesday, a first step toward the ousted dictator's expected trial for crimes against humanity.

In a one-line announcement, Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's office said the Iraqi government assumed legal — but not physical — control "today, 30th June, at 10.15 in the morning."

They are to appear in court Thursday for a reading of the charges.

Salem Chalabi, the director of

in Halabja, the slaughter of Shiites during a 1991 uprising in southern Iraq, the 1990 invasion of Kuwait, and the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war.

Chalabi said Saddam's appearance Thursday at the tribunal, in a courthouse with a prominent clock tower inside Baghdad's sealed-off Green Zone, is expected to be videotaped for public release.

The images would be the first of Saddam the public will have seen since his Dec. 13 capture by U.S. soldiers, when a clip showed the bushy-bearded leader opening his mouth for a dental examination.

*The legal transfer means that Saddam and the others are no longer prisoners of war.*

The Special Tribunal that will conduct the trials, said he met Saddam "earlier today to explain his rights and what will happen."

"The first step has happened," Chalabi told The Associated Press.

The defendants were informed individually of their rights, said an international official who spoke on condition of anonymity. An Iraqi judge witnessed the proceedings.

Saddam, who appeared to have lost weight in confinement, said "Good morning" as he entered the room, according to Chalabi.

After being informed that he was being placed under Iraqi jurisdiction, Saddam, who ruled Iraq for nearly 24 years with absolute authority, was ordered "to leave the room," Chalabi added.

The other defendants also were brought into the room individually to hear that they would appear in court Thursday, Chalabi said.

"Some of them looked very worried," Chalabi added.

Saddam will remain in a U.S.-controlled jail guarded by Americans until the Iraqis are ready to take physical custody of him. That is expected to take a long time.

However, the legal transfer means that Saddam and the others are no longer prisoners of war and are no longer rights under the Geneva Conventions — but criminal defendants whose treatment will be in accordance with Iraqi law. The change in status gives them the right to attorneys.

Chalabi said earlier that the trials of Saddam and other senior figures likely would not begin before 2005.

Le Paul Bremer, the former U.S. administrator, said he was confident that the Iraqis would handle the trials well.

Saddam "will get the kind of justice he denied his own people," Bremer told ABC's "Good Morning America."

The crimes against humanity for which Saddam is expected to be tried include the 1988 chemical weapons massacre of Kurds



**A U.S. Army soldier passes a defaced mosaic of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad on Wednesday. Legal custody of Saddam Hussein and 11 others was transferred to the Iraqis on Wednesday, an international official said.**

Amman, Jordan, that the defense team planned to go to Iraq but that Allawi's government had not said whether it would provide security.

"How can the defense team go

to a country where it doesn't enjoy any protection? They will kill us there," said an angry al-Khasasneh.

As much as 30 tons of documents and other evidence must

be culled. And then there are the potential witnesses, which could be said to include almost every Iraqi.

Associated Press writer Jim Krane contributed to this story.

# STARS AND STRIPES®

Your Hometown Newspaper

Letter from the Publisher

Dear Stars and Stripes Readers,

I am pleased to announce the launch of Scene, a new section in Stars and Stripes on Sundays. Starting July 4, read about practical information that reflects your lifestyle and entertainment interests in Scene.

- Thought-provoking articles from around the world and close to home
- Information about your favorite stars, the latest fashion trends and where to spend your leave
- Reviews of movies, music, and video games
- Listings of activities, festivals, concerts in your area
- Diversions such as Dave Barry's column, crosswords, and cartoons by servicemembers

Scene is your one-stop shop for lifestyle and entertainment content formerly found in Stars' Accent, Pulse and Sunday sections.

Scene is just one example of Stars and Stripes' commitment to providing timely news and information for and about the military to America's men and women in uniform. This year we have significantly expanded our newspaper printing and distribution in forward-deployed areas where our servicemembers face adversity every day. We now print and distribute 67,000 papers daily in the Middle East. This expansion supports Stars and Stripes' core mission: to support military servicemembers and their families by keeping them informed with U.S., world and military news and information. We are proud to be serving forward-deployed servicemembers as they serve our country.

To continue to provide quality coverage, expanded material like Scene and newspapers to servicemembers in harm's way, the single-copy price of the Sunday newspaper will change from \$7.75 to \$11.00, starting July 4, 2004. Stars and Stripes recognizes the value of its loyal readers and will therefore, continue to offer the Sunday newspaper to its subscribers for \$7.75. To take advantage of the convenience of Stars and Stripes' home delivery program and special discounts, see our customer service phone numbers in the paper for an office near you. You can also contact your carrier or use the Get Our Paper button at the Stars and Stripes Web site at [www.stripes.com](http://www.stripes.com).

Thank you for reading and continuing to support Stars and Stripes: Your Hometown Newspaper.

Sincerely,

*Thomas E. Kelsch*  
Thomas E. Kelsch  
Publisher

## Long time, no see



The American flag is raised Wednesday at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad for the first time in 13 years. The United States cut diplomatic ties with Iraq during the Gulf War in 1991.

# Army installing VAOs to help in absentee voting

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — No matter how far troops are from home, they still can have a say in the upcoming election.

While some may think the forms will be endless and the procedure too confusing to vote by absentee ballot, unit voting assistance officers can make sure that isn't the case.

Army Maj. Perry Phillips oversees all VAOs for his unit, the 377th Theater Support Command. He said his unit, which has several thousand troops, tries to field about one VAO for every 50 soldiers.

"Lately we've been getting our units assigned with VAOs and getting them trained up," said Phillips, whose primary job is as judge advocate.

Once the VAOs are trained, they can help troops with anything related to voting, whether it's registering for the first time or finding the rules for the individual's home state.

"The VAOs all have a guidebook that has all the instructions state by state," Phillips said. "All the states are the same to some degree, but they do have some differences."

Each VAO also is stocked with absentee ballot request forms. Phillips said once the form is filled out, it goes to the person's county registrar. The ballot then is mailed directly to the individual.

Phillips said at no time are statistics kept on who votes, registers, or what party the voter is affiliated with. And he said officials don't judge the success of the program by the number of voters.

"The goal is to give every soldier the opportunity to cast a ballot in the election ... if they want to do it," Phillips said.

While Phillips said his VAOs won't really hit the voter campaign trail hard until the beginning of July, Army Lt. Col. Glennda Guillery, who is in charge of the program for the 375th Transportation Group, is halfway home.

"So far, 50 percent of the unit is aware of the form and where to get the information," said Guillery of the more than 4,000 unit members. She said while she can't track how many vote, she can make sure the VAOs are getting the word out. She has each VAO submit a monthly report detailing what they have done to

make soldiers aware of the procedure.

Army Sgt. Jennifer D. Payne assists Guillery in tracking the program. She said troops need to know they can make a difference.

"We want everyone to know that they have a voice that needs to be heard," she said. "Just because they're here doesn't mean their vote doesn't count."

Payne said the 375th also spreads voting information through newsletters and e-mails. Phillips said potential voters can find out who their units' voting representative is by visiting the local post office. He said lists will be published in each facility to help direct voters.

For those who don't receive an absentee ballot in time, Phillips said the VAOs will be equipped with the next form voters will have to fill out, the federal write-in absentee ballot.

Guillery said another way for servicemembers to gather voting information is through the Web site [www.vao.us](http://www.vao.us).

The deadlines for absentee balloting in the Middle East are Aug. 15 for requests and Oct. 11 for mailing them back.

Contact Fred Zimmerman at [zimmerman@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:zimmerman@stripes.osd.mil)

# IRR call-ups start Tuesday; most to be sent overseas

BY LISA BURGESS  
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Army will begin involuntary mobilizations of the Individual Ready Reserve on Tuesday, tapping 5,600 individuals to fill slots in units

*The tapped soldiers principally include transporters, drivers, mechanics, combat engineers, logisticians and supply troops.*

The Army's Individual Ready Reserve, or IRR, is a pool of more than 111,000 soldiers who have left active duty or active reserve service, but still have time left on their obligation.

Up to 5,600 IRR soldiers from all over the United States will get a warning mailgram starting next week, followed within days by formal activation orders that give the individual 30 days to report to his or her mobilization station, Robert Smiley told Pentagon reporters Wednesday.

Smiley, who is principal assistant for training, readiness and mobilization in the Army's Office of Manpower and Reserve Affairs, said the Army is working to fill 4,402 spaces in units bound for the third rotation to Iraq (Op-

eration Iraqi Freedom 3) and the sixth rotation to Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom 6), both of which are due to start later this summer.

The IRR soldiers will spend about 30 days at a basic training site, where their basic soldiering skills will undergo evaluation and training will be supplied to fill shortfalls, Smiley said.

From there, the soldiers will be sent to their new units for unit training before the deployment begins.

A few IRR soldiers will remain in the United States, Smiley said, but most will go to Iraq or Afghanistan.

The IRR soldiers, like other soldiers, will not be required to spend more than one year in Iraq or Afghanistan once deployed, although the Army cannot guarantee that the "12-month boots on the ground" policy will not be modified to meet mission requirements, as has happened with many units serving in OIF 2.

The tapped soldiers principally include "transporters, drivers, mechanics, combat engineers, lo-

## Facts about the involuntary IRR call-up

**How many people will be called?**

5,600

**How many slots is the Army trying to fill?**

4,402

**Why the extra mobilizations?**

For each slot, the Army needs to call up 1.3 soldiers, because some will not make the cut for medical or personal reasons.

**When will they be notified?**

They will be alerted beginning July 6; formal orders will follow within days.

**When will they report?**

Thirty days after receiving formal activation orders.

**How long can they be mobilized?**

Up to 24 months, although orders will be for 18 months.

**Where will they go?**

Most will go to Iraq or Afghanistan; a few will remain in the United States.

**When do their salaries and benefits start?**

The day they report to their mobilization station.

**How many IRR soldiers have already been mobilized?**

541; of those, 324 are on active duty, and 217 are awaiting training.

Source: U.S. Army

gistics and supply folks," according to Raymond Robinson Jr., chief of operations for the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

None of the soldiers called up will have been deployed to either Iraq or Afghanistan within the previous 12 months — anyone whose record reflects such a deployment is exempt, according to

Army Col. Debra Cook, commander of the Army's Human Resources Command in St. Louis.

However, Army officials could not guarantee that none of the augmentees have served in either theater post-Sept. 11, 2001, although Army officials tried to avoid calling such members again, said Cook, who spoke during the Pentagon news confer-

ence.

"The records [of the IRR soldiers considered for the call-up] have been reviewed on a case-by-case basis," Cook said.

This summer's IRR mobilization is not a one-time event, the Army officials said, the mobilizations will continue as the Army continues to rotate troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We expect to call some more" not only for OIF4 and OEFT, but also some call-ups in addition to the 5,600 for OIF3, Smiley said.

Pressed on how many additional IRR mobilizations the future might hold, Smiley said, "We simply don't know."

When asked if numbers could be in the thousands, he replied, "Yes."

The IRR mobilizations provided ammunition for politicians like Sen. Carl Levin, ranking member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who have said that the Army is overstretched by its obligations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The mobilization "shows how heavy a stress the Army is under," Levin, a Democrat from Michigan, said in a Wednesday telephone interview organized by Sen. John Kerry's campaign. "The active Army is too small."

Contact Lisa Burgess at [burgess@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:burgess@stripes.osd.mil)



# Reel fun in Kuwait

## MWR offers fishing trips for deployed troops

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — Soldiers from the 501st Forward Support Battalion's Company B probably heard Spc. David Shier's story of how he went fishing and nearly landed a 3½-foot shark.

He fought the mini-monster, walking it more than 100 feet down a pier to stay with it, but as he began to pull it out of the water, with one powerful clamp of its jaws, the king of the ocean snapped the line and swam away.

While some may say Shier's story is nothing more than a big fish story, some believe the tale — which is true. But the adventure didn't take place years ago aboard the SS Minnow; it happened this past weekend as Shier and fellow troops from Camp Arifjan went on a fishing trip at a local pier.

The 377th Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers four trips a week. All expeditions are on a first-come, first-served basis and up to 20 people can go, according to Army Staff Sgt. Dwayne Albright, from the 377th MWR.

Shier and Sgt. Donnie Boe, also with the 501st FSB, have gone fishing five times. They both said it had been several years since they were able to cast a line.

*“Only thing I’m fishing for is a mermaid. Everything else, I’m throwing back.”*

Sgt. Tom Banks  
Army National Guard's  
1244th Transportation  
Company

“This is enjoyable,” Boe said as he watched for bites on one of his two poles. “It definitely helps break up the monotony.”

Boe said the biggest fish he has caught on one of the trips was about 1½ pounds, but he wasn't sure what kind it was.

Albright said the Kuwaitis who work on the pier are helpful when it comes to identifying fish. He said the weirdest thing he's seen reeled in was a strange-looking fish that the locals told him not to touch because it's poisonous. He said in addition to the unknown sea life, he's seen lots of stingrays and small sharks on hooks.

Sgt. Joe Jackson, from the Army National Guard's 1244th Transportation Company, pulled

in the strangest catch of the day during a recent trip. At first he thought his line was snagged, but it turns out there was a heavy object on it.

“What's that? A pickle,” Jackson cried out as he pulled his hook out the water. He landed what looked like some type of sea cucumber.

Fellow soldier Sgt. Tom Banks, also from the 1244th, said he wasn't there to catch fish.

“Only thing I'm fishing for is a mermaid,” joked Banks. “Everything else, I'm throwing back.”

Banks actually had the first catch of the day — a 6-inch sea bass or some type of catfish, he said. Since it wasn't a mermaid, Banks did as promised and threw it back.

All fishing here through the MWR is catch and release, said Albright.

To be able to take troops out for a day of fishing, Army Staff Sgt. Eric Robinson, head enlisted man in the 377th MWR here, said they have relied on donations. He said the MWR staff in the rear worked hard to get a sports company to donate all the reels and rods. MWR picks up the tab for all the tackle and bait.

“We just try to make sure the soldiers are having a good time,” Robinson said.

In the future, boat trips may be



FRED ZIMMERMAN/Stars and Stripes

Sgt. Joe Jackson makes his first cast of the day off a Kuwaiti pier during a recent fishing trip provided by the 377th Morale, Welfare and Recreation. MWR supplied all items — poles, tackle and bait.

available for anglers, Robinson said. But because of safety concerns and security issues, he said that idea is being thoroughly reviewed.

Those interested in the trip can sign up by visiting the MWR office in Building 508 in Zone II.

E-mail: Fred Zimmerman at: [zimmermanf@psrripes.osd.mil](mailto:zimmermanf@psrripes.osd.mil)

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## Family and friends memorialize former soldier killed in Iraq

BY KEVIN DOUGHERTY  
Stars and Stripes

To those who knew him, Rex G. Sprague III was one of those people you could always, always count on.

Friends and family members recall the former soldier as being dependable, calm and resourceful. And that was just the start.

“He always had a solution for things,” said Sgt. 1st Class Paul Bihler of Stuttgart, Germany. “He never got spun-up about stuff.”

On June 14, Iraqi insurgents shot and killed Sprague, 39, in an ambush near the city of Karbala in central Iraq. He was working as a contractor with Titan Corp. at the time.

Bihler, who knew Sprague for five years, said three other men in the vehicle escaped serious injury because Sprague, who was driving, had the presence of mind to keep his vehicle moving until it cleared the flash point.

Another occupant of the vehicle drove the rest of the way, but Sprague's injuries were too severe, and he died shortly thereafter.

Friends and family members planned to gather Thursday for a

2 p.m. funeral service at the cemetery in Schanbakh, a small village east of Stuttgart, where Sprague lived with his wife, Natascha.

Sprague retired from the Army in December after 20 years of service. In January, he went to work for Titan, a San Diego company that provides information and communication products and services to the Defense Department and other government agencies. The company has a contract with the Army to provide linguist support in Iraq.

While on active duty, Sprague was assigned to the 95th Military Police Battalion and the 554th Military Police Company, Bihler said. He also saw duty in the Balkans.

In addition, Sprague, who went to high school in Brewer, Maine, was a veteran of the Persian Gulf War, according to the Bangor Daily News.

“He was always trying to do good,” Sprague's sister Petra Lewis, 40, said in an interview with the paper. “He loved his country, I know that. He put other people before himself, but I guess that's obvious.”

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at: [doughertyk@mail.esrripes.osd.mil](mailto:doughertyk@mail.esrripes.osd.mil)

# Mortar attack on U.S. base injures 11 GIs

## Marine seen in militants' tape is reclassified as 'captured'

BY TODD PITMAN  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Insurgents fired at least 10 mortar rounds at a U.S. base on the outskirts of Baghdad International Airport on Wednesday, wounding 11 soldiers, two of them seriously, and starting a fire that burned for well over an hour.

That attack, along with a car bomb that exploded outside a police headquarters in Samawah, were yet more evidence that insurgents have no plans of letting up their attacks even after the U.S. coalition authorities handed over sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government Monday.

Despite the end of the occupation, about 160,000 foreign troops — most of them Americans — remain in Iraq to provide security and train Iraq's new security services. American officials have warned that the transfer of sovereignty would not stop assaults.

Guerrillas struck the logistics base on the edge of Baghdad's airport at about 8:15 a.m., said Lt. Col. Richard Rael, their commander. The base is operated by the New Mexico Army National Guard's 515 Corps Support Battalion.

"We're OK," Rael said. "We'll get back to business as usual."

A pall of black smoke hung over the airport for an hour after one of the 82 mm mortar rounds struck a petroleum products yard.

There were no injuries from the fire.

The base has been subject to almost daily mortar attacks, but this was the first time the attacks caused significant casualties and damage.



An Iraqi policeman climbs into the back of a damaged police truck in central Baghdad after an explosion Wednesday. No injuries were reported in the blast, but a separate car bombing in Samawah injured two people. Elsewhere, a mortar attack on a U.S. base wounded 11 U.S. soldiers, two seriously.

Two people were wounded in the car bombing in Samawah, which set two other vehicles ablaze, a hospital official said.

Meanwhile, the United States was still looking for U.S. Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun. On Tuesday, his status was changed from "missing" to "captured."

An insurgent group has claimed the kidnapping of Hassoun and has threatened to behead him unless Iraqi prisoners are released.

Hassoun was shown blindfolded with a sword brandished over his head in a video aired on Al-Jazeera television.

Hassoun, of Lebanese descent, was last seen about a week before the videotape was broadcast Sunday, the military said.

"The circumstances surrounding the Marine's absence initially indicated that he was missing," a statement by the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force said. "However, in light of what we have observed on the terrorists' video, we have classified him as captured."

The New York Times, citing a Marine officer who spoke on the condition of anonymity, reported Wednesday that Hassoun had been traumatized after seeing one of his sergeants killed by a mortar,

and was trying to make his way back to Lebanon. The officer told the paper that Hassoun sought the help of Iraqis on the base, was betrayed by them, and was handed over to the extremists.

Hassoun's eldest brother, Mohammad, who lives in a Salt Lake City suburb, denied the report.

"To me it has no foundation. It's all wrong," Mohammad Hassoun said Tuesday night.

In Baghdad, a senior U.S. military official said Hassoun was missed after he failed to report for duty on June 20.

"It is highly unlikely that he was taken," the official said, on

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Tuesday, 853 U.S. servicemen have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 632 died as a result of hostile action and 221 died of nonhostile causes.

The British military has reported 59 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 715 U.S. servicemen have died — 523 as a result of hostile action and 192 of nonhostile causes.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A roadside bomb struck a military convoy in southeast Baghdad on Tuesday, killing three U.S. Marines.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No new identifications reported.

the condition of anonymity. "We are investigating all possible circumstances that could have led to his failure to report to duty."

Capt. Amy Malugin, spokeswoman for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force from Camp Pendleton, declined to comment on the report Tuesday. She also would not say what steps the Marines were taking to rescue Hassoun.

# Army investigating 2 more prisoner deaths in Iraq

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Army has reopened investigations into two prisoner deaths in Iraq that had previously been attributed to natural causes, an official with the service said.

New information led investigators to question the causes of the deaths, the official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

The Army's Criminal Investigation Command will make a final determination whether either death should be reclassified as a homicide, the official said.

The official had no specifics on either death.

Last month, Army officials said medical investigators had attributed the deaths of 15 prisoners in Iraq and Afghanistan to natural causes. That figure may have changed, but officials have declined to provide updated numbers.

At least 19 more prisoner deaths in the two war zones had been investigated as homicides by the military. Eight of those were determined to be justified killings of an escaping or dangerously violent prisoner.

So far, military officials have refused to provide a comprehensive list of the incidents of alleged prisoner abuse or homicide that they are investigating. The following list of 11 additional prisoner deaths was pieced together from a number of military sources.

IRAQ:

■ April 28, 2004: Fahin Ali Gumaa, 44, died several days after receiving multiple gunshot wounds in Baghdad. The circumstances of his shooting are unclear.

■ Jan. 9, 2004: Abdul Jaleel, 46, held at Forward Operating Base Rifles near Al Asad, Iraq, died of "blunt force injuries and asphyxia." His death is under investigation.

■ Nov. 26, 2003: Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush, a former commander of Saddam Hussein's air defenses, died during interrogation at Qaim, Iraq. His death may have involved a CIA officer who is an interrogator. Doctors attributed his death to "asphyxia due to smothering and chest compression." His death is under investigation.

■ Nov. 4, 2003: Mandel Al-Jamadi, who was being held at Abu Ghraib, the Iraqi prison in which the well-known abuse of

prisoners took place, died of "blunt force injuries complicated by compromised respiration," doctors said. Two CIA personnel, an officer and a contract translator, were present when he died. The agency and the Justice Department are investigating.

■ September 2003: A soldier shot and killed a prisoner in Iraq who threw rocks at him. The soldier was punished and dismissed from the Army for using excessive force.

■ June 13, 2003: Dilar Dababa, who was being held near Baghdad, died of what doctors determined was a head injury. Doctors determined his death was a homicide, but no more information has been provided.

■ June 6, 2003: Prisoner Nagem Sadoon Hatab, a Baath Party member, died of strangulation after a Marine grabbed him by the neck at a holding facility near Nasiriyah. Investigators determined his death was accidental, but several Marines were charged in connection with his treatment.

AFGHANISTAN:

■ Nov. 6, 2003: Abdul Wahid, an Afghan, died of multiple blunt force injuries, which were complicated by a muscle condition,

while in U.S. custody in Helmand province in southwestern Afghanistan.

Army spokesmen said Wahid suffered those injuries before he was turned over to U.S. forces by Afghan militiamen. He died a few hours later. The case remains under investigation.

■ Dec. 10, 2002: Abdul Wali, an Afghan prisoner at Asadabad, Afghanistan, died three days after turning himself in to U.S. authorities. A contractor for the CIA, 38-year-old David A. Passaro of Lillington, N.C., has been charged with two counts each of assault and assault with a dangerous weapon — a flashlight — in connection with his death.

■ Dec. 10, 2002: An Afghan listed only as Dilawar, 22, died while being held at Bagram air base. Doctors attributed his death to "blunt force injuries to lower extremities complicating coronary artery disease." His death remains under investigation.

■ Dec. 20, 2002: Mullah Habibullah, about 28, an Afghan also held at Bagram, died of "pulmonary embolism due to blunt force injuries to the leg," according to his doctors. His death also remains under investigation.

# Maupin family's privacy protected

BY LISA CORNWELL  
The Associated Press

BATAVIA, Ohio — As neighbors await word on the fate of a hometown soldier taken hostage in Iraq, they cluster around the family of Spc. Keith M. Maupin, guarding against the inquiries of persistent journalists.

Even with reports that Maupin might have been slain by his captors in this village east of Cincinnati are refraining from talking about Maupin or his family with the media.

"It's just a small, close-knit community," said Donna Marshall, 45, sitting Tuesday in a park where residents set up an electric light for Maupin that always is kept on. "I think everyone just wants the family to be left alone."

Maupin was captured April 9 west of Baghdad. Arab television network Al-Jazeera reported Monday that insurgents holding the 20-year-old soldier fatally shot him. The Army has not confirmed the report.

Journalists receive a cool reception throughout Batavia. At least a half-dozen people declined interview Tuesday in the village's business district.

On Monday, a woman showed up to place a small American flag and a yellow ribbon on a fence near the high school where



THE CINCINNATI ENQUIRER/AP

**Media outlets covering reaction to reports of the murder of Army Spc. Keith M. Maupin in Iraq descend on Maj. Mark Magalski on Tuesday near Batavia, Ohio. Magalski is talking about Maupin's situation, but few townspeople are. A woman placed an American flag and a yellow ribbon near Maupin's high school Monday, but didn't want to be interviewed. "If you're with the news, I don't want to talk to you," she said.**

Maupin graduated in 2001. She politely declined an interview.

"If you're with the news, I don't want to talk to you," she said. After the Al-Jazeera report aired, some people shouted at reporters who gathered Monday night near the home of Maupin's mother, Carolyn.

Former Mayor Bob Handra didn't expect anything different. "It doesn't surprise me a bit that they are doing this and have come

together around the family. That's the way we do things here," he said.

The Maupin family is refraining from public comment until military investigators learn more, said Maj. Mark Magalski, an Army officer assigned since April to support the family.

"People feel they can help support the family by protecting their privacy and not talking about it," said Stephanie Heckler, 23,

# Hostage's faith key for Muslims

BY NADIA ABOU EL-MAGD  
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Debate raged on Islamic Web sites about the propriety of killing fellow Muslims who work for coalition forces in Iraq, after militants released three Turkish hostages they had threatened to behead.

The Tawhid and Jihad movement of terror mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi announced Saturday it would kill the three Turks within 72 hours unless Turkish companies stopped doing business with American forces in Iraq.

On Tuesday, however, the movement released them "for the sake of Muslim brothers and mujahideen in Turkey," according to a statement broadcast on Al-Jazeera television.

That contrasted starkly to the treatment of several non-Muslims recently. Al-Zarqawi's movement claimed responsibility for the beheading of Kim Sun-il, a South Korean who worked for a company delivering supplies to American forces, and Nicholas Berg, an American businessman. Al-Qaida-linked militants in Saudi Arabia decapitated American engineer Paul M. Johnson Jr. and posted pictures of his severed head on the Internet.

Most people who post messages on several Islamic Web sites known for their extremist bent believe those are justified. But with-

er it is proper to kill Muslims taken captive because of their links to the U.S. military is a hot topic.

Opinions are mixed. Some people urged the kidnappers to spare the Turks because they were "fellow Muslims." Others urged militants to decapitate them. "Turkish Muslims should be the first to demand that those hypocrites be beheaded, as they are allied with the devil," meaning the Americans, one person wrote on a Web site that has published al-Zarqawi statements and claims of responsibility for other killings.

Another contributor said he supported the decapitation of hostages — but not Muslim ones.

"Slaughtering is something you started with the infidel Crusaders and their allies, and we hope you won't deviate from that path," he wrote. But "they're Muslims, so don't kill them... as long as they didn't cause direct harm."

The practice of publicizing such killings appears aimed at increasing the shock value of the militant campaign against Westerners, especially Americans. Among those believed held hostage and facing possible death are U.S. Marine Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun, a Muslim of Lebanese origin, and Anjad Hafeez, a Pakistani driver. On Tuesday, Al-Jazeera reported that militants killed Spc. Keith M. Maupin, 20, with a single bullet to the head [see story at left].

Stars and Stripes

# Messages of Support

★ I just wanted you to know you are appreciated for everything you are doing. You are very brave. I could never do what you are doing. You are amazing. Stay safe and I hope you get to go home soon. Robin

★ Bless you all... Bless you, my son, D. Buff, who is serving in the Army. I pray for God to command His angels to protect all the soldiers and keep you safe. This is a mother's prayer of all of you. Janet, Kansas City

★ T. Hutchins We are very proud of you and your troops. We wish you a speedy return to the USA. Take care of your business, Stay focused and hurry home. Love Mom and Dad in Ft. Worth Texas

★ Dear Charles, Love you - we are praying for you and the other men/women safe return home. Mom

★ Hello, I just want to let all our brave soldiers know that God is watching over them and that everything will be okay. Everyone up here in North Dakota is wishing them well, praying for our men everyday. We love you and we are so very proud of you for being so strong and representing our country in this way. War is a scary time of trials, but we want you to know that everyone back home thanks you and misses you. My love and support, ~Lyndsay B. from Fargo, North Dakota

★ God bless all of you guys, thanks for making my life and all my loved ones safer. I'm so proud of everything that you are enduring as far as weather sand no beds showers and all other comforts of life. You are heroes no matter what a small of un-American is saying. THANKS! Claudio

★ I want you all to know I support you and the war. God Bless you all and may you be safe.

★ Dave, we are all thinking of you back home and pray for your safe return. As well, we are proud of what you are doing for our country. I pray that you and your crew, as well as all other servicemen fighting for our country stay safe. I love you, Your sis, Susan

★ To all of our Brave Soldiers fighting in Iraq: Words can not express the gratitude and pride we take in our Nations Bravest people fighting this war. Thank you for taking it into your own hands to fight for our freedom, our children's freedom and the Nations future. We support each one of you. Our love and prayers to you and your families. Sincerely, The Sassers of Milton-Freewater, OR

★ This is just a note to say how very proud we are of all you're doing. We support your courageous efforts 100%. Not everyone back home is idiotic and protesting the war. It makes us so angry when we hear people talking trash about the President, the troops and the country. I know your days are long and you're bored tired and scared. You are the kind of person I can only aspire to be. You are my hero.

# U.S. to look for Iraq war allies in base shifts

## Lawmaker says coalition members likely to benefit from restructuring

BY MARNI MCENTEE

Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — When the United States begins restructuring military forces worldwide, allies that supported the war in Iraq will see the benefit of their loyalty, a U.S. congressman said Wednesday.

Rep. Duncan Hunter, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, said countries such as Poland, which has sent troops to serve in Iraq, will be remembered in any basing strategy in Eastern Europe.

"You tend to rely more on a neighbor or friend who has a history of reliability when you have no real financial commitments than one that hasn't," Hunter, R-Calif., said during a stop at Ramstein.

Hunter was referring to a Pentagon plan to restructure its forces, including a possible shift in overseas-based troops to Eastern Europe, Africa and the United States.

Echoing earlier Pentagon slams against "Old Europe," Hunter said lack of support for the Iraq campaign from countries such as Germany also will be remembered.

"I think it's healthy for nations to know that there are consequences of their actions," Hunter said.

Polish forces have long cooperated with the United States, in-

cluding sending forces to Kosovo and hosting major U.S. Army exercises in their country. Poland now leads a multinational division in south-central Iraq.

"The fact that they've stepped forward and their soldiers are sacrificing in Iraq is very important to us," Hunter said. "That's the strongest [indication] of a reliable ally."

Hunter and fellow committee members Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, and Ken Calvert, R-Calif., returned Tuesday from a two-day trip to Iraq. They planned to visit wounded soldiers at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center on Wednesday before returning to the United States.

In order to streamline its forces and be better positioned to respond to global military needs, the Pentagon is considering a number of changes in its global "footprint." Among the proposals is the withdrawal of the 1st Infantry and the 1st Armored divisions from Germany, according to news reports. Other plans may include relocating F-16s based at Spangdahlem, Germany, to Turkey and moving F-15s in England.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld is to present specific details of the force structure changes to the Armed Services Committee in the next few weeks, said Raymond DuBois Jr., deputy undersecretary of defense for installation environment. DuBois traveled with the congressman to Iraq and Germany.



MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

A Spangdahlem, Germany-based F-16 from the 52nd Fighter Wing rolls down a runway after returning from duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom in May 2003. The Department of Defense is looking at shifting some forces in Europe, which might include bases such as Spangdahlem.

DuBois wouldn't discuss the details of the new "global footprint," except to say that the 60-year-old Cold War structure has to be realigned.

DuBois did confirm that Ramstein, a key airlift hub for troops and supplies in Europe and the Middle East, will remain, as will nearby Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, which treats wounded and ill troops in the same region.

"Ramstein is an enduring base. So Landstuhl," DuBois said.

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Stars and Stripes  
**Messages of Support**  
 ★ Dear Jim, I don't know if you will get this, but it was worth a shot ~ Just wanted you to know you are on our mind and always in our heart. I can't wait for you to come home. I know you guys are tough, but we just want you safe. Stay strong, and take care of yourself. ~ Keep those blue eyes shining ~ They always light up when you smile ~ Annalisa

Stars and Stripes  
**Messages of Support**  
 ★ To the brave men and women from all services and all countries supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, and take it from someone who has walked in your shoes. We support you and what you are doing. We will be there for you when you need us. Be safe, complete the mission, and come home soon. Tom Goodman

Stars and Stripes  
**Messages of Support**  
 ★ To all the men and women serving so bravely in Iraq: This is to let you know how very proud I am of all of you. You have left your family, friends and love ones to fight for the freedom of those in another land. I pray for you daily and ask God to protect you and keep you safe. I cannot imagine what you are going through. I can only watch what they show us on the news. I wish there was something more I could do for you then just sending this email. I hope in some way it will let you know the American public support you. Stay strong and come home soon. Brenda from Reisterstown, MD

## GAO report faults military's oversight of contaminants

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — A congressional report released Tuesday found that the military is not taking steps to clean up areas where high levels of the hazardous chemical perchlorate have been found.

The report, by the General Accounting Office, critiqued the military for lacking a comprehensive policy for testing and cleaning up perchlorate, a component of fuel used in munitions and rockets, and 19 other chemicals associated with munitions that present serious public health risks.

Perchlorate has infiltrated drinking-water supplies in California and other states. The chemical can affect the thyroid gland's production of hormones that are critical to early childhood development.

The GAO report said the military uses 90 percent of the perchlorate produced in the United States. The report was released as the military is seeking exemptions from the hazardous-waste laws that give states and the federal government leverage to force the cleanup of chemicals that pose significant public health risks.

Defense Department officials rejected the GAO's assessment and defended the Pentagon's environmental record.

soliders were alleged to have joined him in the assault.

Military prosecutors noted that the victim's cell phone had been found in Jones' room, said Maj. William Smoot, the division's chief of criminal law. And one of the other two soldiers testified against him.

But the panel acquitted him after the alleged victim could not identify Jones as his assailant, and witnesses said he was wearing a different color shirt than the alleged attacker, Smoot said.

From staff reports

### Hohenfels soldier acquitted

A court-martial panel in Vilseck, Germany, acquitted a Hohenfels-based soldier Wednesday of charges he beat up a German civilian, stole a bar last October and stole the man's cell phone.

According to the office of the 1st Infantry Division's staff judge advocate, Spc. Maurice Jones, 21, of the 1st Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, had been accused of larceny, assault and receiving stolen property in connection with the Oct. 11 incident near the Qu Club in Regensburg. Two other



## Rota's power plant gets funds for safety

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER  
Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — Working at the base power plant has been a noisy and hazardous job for years.

Between 50 and 70 employees — some of them retired now — have been diagnosed with noise-induced hearing loss.

Since the naval station's tight budget can't pay for the expensive, noise-reducing fixes, a little-known Navy program will.

The Navy's Mishap Prevention and Hazard Abatement Program will spend \$470,000 to reduce the noise at the plant and fix several other safety hazards at the base in southern Spain.

The program spends about \$12 million at Navy bases worldwide to minimize safety hazards that money-strapped commanders often do not have the funds to repair.

The program will dish out about \$1 million to Navy bases in Europe, according to Lance Laughmiller, the Navy's Hazard Abatement program manager. The money will be spent on such things as an insulated roof to better control roof temperatures and ergonomically designed mop buckets for custodians.

The money comes at a time when many base commanders are dealing with smaller budgets because of war costs and plans to modernize the fleet.

In Rota, Dave Hipiakka, Kevin Dyrda and Miguel Garcia with the hospital's Industrial Hygiene Department have pushed to get

money from the Naval Facilities Command, which oversees the hazard abatement program.

They helped get the approval for a \$275,000 computerized system that will allow power plant workers to check gauges for electrical generators, converters, steam boilers and pump stations from a terminal in a quieter room.

"It's a pretty extreme work environment down there," Hipiakka said.

The money spent on the new system not only improves safety, but also it is expected to save money in the long run. The Navy has spent \$1.5 million in compensation to plant employees, according to a request for the project.

Other projects approved: A new, \$85,000 centralized compressed air system that will reduce interior noise.

■ A \$100,000 roof that will replace deteriorated asbestos tiles.

■ An additional \$100,000 for ergonomically designed mop buckets, mop handles and equipment carts to reduce custodians' back injuries. In the past decade, the hospital's Industrial Hygiene Department has brought \$1.2 million to the base to improve safety shortfalls. The department routinely reviews working conditions and suggests ways commands can improve.

"Nobody is really against making the workplace safer, but if they've undergone the budget cuts we've seen just this year, where they've cut [Morale, Welfare and Recreation] pretty good, they simply can't do it," Hipiakka said.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at: [schonauer@mail.ejstripes.osd.mil](mailto:schonauer@mail.ejstripes.osd.mil)

## Reward offered for info on missing \$1.6 million

BY JASON CHUDY  
Stars and Stripes

Naval Criminal Investigative Service officials are offering rewards for information in the theft Feb. 18 of a box containing \$1.6 million from Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily.

Reward amounts will depend on the type of the information and its usefulness in the recovery of the money or prosecution of anyone involved.

Sigonella NCIS officials said that identities of informants will be kept confidential.

Sigonella agents are investigating the case, and other unnamed "U.S. federal law enforcement agencies" are assisting officials said in a written response to Stars and Stripes.

The morning after the theft, Naples-based NCIS agents interviewed the Navy's regional postal officials there. Local Sicilian law enforcement agencies also have been notified.

The money was discovered missing by base Air Cargo Division personnel when they tried to move it from a security cage to an Air Force cargo airplane for shipment.

The Heidelberg, Germany-based 266th Finance Command boxed and sent the money by registered mail to the Navy's Auxiliary Supply Unit in Bahrain. The 38-pound box of \$100 bills was to be flown from Ramstein Air Base to Bahrain via Sigonella.

The package was received, signed for and added to an air cargo inventory list in Sigonella on Feb. 11, according to information from base and NCIS officials.

All registered items receive special treatment, officials wrote, which includes "hand-to-hand" accountability, and signatures of those receiving and turning over packages.

When not locked in the cage, or on an aircraft,

the packages are escorted or in someone's possession. Items in the security cage also are inventoried on a regular basis.

The money had been accounted for earlier on the day of its disappearance.

Officials wrote in response to questions that access to the package was limited to "approximately 15" U.S. military personnel assigned to the Air Force Division.

The person, or people, who took the package had "a good idea it was a box of money," officials wrote. There was "no way for someone to determine the amount of money in the box" because "every money registered mail piece looks [and weighs] exactly the same," they wrote.

There were no other registered packages or regular mail missing from the cage at the time.

They added that because of the accountability procedures for registered mail "even if it was planned in advance the opportunity still had to present itself."

Registered packages, including the missing \$1.6 million, are normally not insured, officials wrote, as it was sent from one government organization to another by the government-run U.S. mail.

Officials say that more information may be released in the future.

"The purpose of releasing this information is to make the public aware of the missing money," the officials wrote. "There may be [an] individual [or people] who have some knowledge of the incident but are not aware of the significance of what they may know."

Anyone with information, or who may know someone with information, is asked to call Special Agent Jeff Grant at DSN 624-9210 or commercial (+39) 095-86-9210.

E-mail Jason Chudy at: [chudyj@mail.ejstripes.osd.mil](mailto:chudyj@mail.ejstripes.osd.mil)

Stars and Stripes

## Messages of Support

★ TO ALL THE WONDERFUL SOLDIERS OUT THERE FIGHTING FOR OUR COUNTRY, WE WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT WE'RE ALL PRAYING FOR YOU AND HOPING THIS WAR WILL BE OVER SOON AND THAT IT WILL BRING YOU ALL HOME SAFELY. WE'RE BEHIND YOU AND THE PRESIDENT 100%. YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB AND THANK-YOU ALL FOR ALL YOUR BRAVERY. WE LOVE YOU, CAROL AND FRANK.

★ To all of the toughest and bravest Americans of all, we are so proud of you - you have no idea what is going on in communities, in churches, and in neighborhoods to show support for you guys. From groups singing American songs to children passing out yellow ribbons. We are glued to TVs and radios each morning to hear the latest. We pray everyday for your safety, but your determination and perseverance just makes me swell with envy - just to be right along your side - as brothers and sisters. Way to go - you guys totally rock - and keep on! Kick some major booty out there. Oh yeah, and thanks - a big of 'heap load! I support you all, but GO ARMY! Denise T., Orlando, FL

★ You're "Getting it done!" over there, so we can take care of business over here. Thank you. Ann

★ To every Soldier, Sailor, Marine, Aviator, Specialist and others in Operation Iraqi Freedom and in "Making the World Safer"!!! We keep up with your amazing fight on TV. Congratulations!!! Keep up the good work and keep your heads high, except when being shot at. Our hearts go out to you and your buddies as well as your families. We think WAR is a last choice, but this one to protect our freedom and life, unsoiled by Terrorism is a VERY worthwhile effort, mostly on your part. Here, in Circleville, Ohio, the sun came up this morning and the Daffodils are starting to bloom. We hope that you see such things soon. We carry you in our hearts and prayers. With Love, George & Ellen.

★ Just wanted to say hello and we love you and miss you! We're praying for all of you and hope that you're back home soon! Always, Marsha, Mom, Jason, "FuFu" and Family

## AAFES pursuing prints of film 'Fahrenheit 9/11'

BY PATRICK DICKSON  
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — AAFES won't let a little controversy get in the way of acquiring copies of Michael Moore's new documentary, "Fahrenheit 9/11," a spokesman said Monday.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is pursuing prints through one of the film's distributors, Lions Gate Films, said Judd Anstey, a spokesman at AAFES headquarters in Dallas.

Whether AAFES pursues a movie depends entirely on its popularity in the United States.

"AAFES' motion picture policy is to screen films that are popular in the private sector," AAFES Vice President of Food and Theater Richard Sheff responded via e-mail. "AAFES' position will not change based on a single feature. If Fahrenheit 9/11 proves popular in the private sector and prints are available, the movie will be shown."

"Fahrenheit 9/11" was No. 1 at the weekend's U.S. box office, earning \$23.9 million, a record debut for a documentary film.

It was the first time a nonfiction film opened at the top of the box office.



Director Michael Moore greets moviegoers seeing his film "Fahrenheit 9/11" on Sunday in New York. AAFES is trying to acquire copies of the film to show in its theaters.

Anstey noted that it "was a very soft weekend," for ticket sales as no blockbusters were released. He said it would be instructive to see how the film fares on its second weekend, with the release of "Spiderman 2" competing with it.

E-mail Pat Dickson at: [dicksonp@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:dicksonp@stripes.osd.mil)

# Where to go to have a blast for the Fourth

Stars and Stripes

The July Fourth holiday will be celebrated in American communities across Europe with picnics, games and fireworks, with some events getting a jump on the week-end by starting on Thursday.

One of the bigger celebrations will be Freedom Fest 2004 at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

Starting at noon Friday and ending with a musical show after a July 4 fireworks display Sunday, the fest has a full suite of games, music, food and carnival rides.

Events take place at the Southside Fitness Center track and field and in the bowling center parking lot.

For those who live farther east in Germany, Spangdahlem Air Base is hosting its annual BASH — its Big Annual Summer Happening — Friday to Monday. The BASH will take place at the French Kaserne at Bitburg.

Also, from noon to 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday the International BASH Bazaar will be inside the Bitburg gym next to the beverage tent. The bazaar features dozens of vendors selling everything from carpets to glassware.

Following is a sampling of events at other communities:

## England

■ **RAF Feltwell:** Community celebration from 10 a.m. to midnight Sunday. The event is open to the public and will feature carnival rides, face painting, food booths, fireworks and more.

## Germany

■ **Ansbach:** German American Volkfest, 5-11 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 1-11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and 1-11 p.m. Monday at Shipton Training Area. Fireworks at 10 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Babenhausen:** Community party begins at 6 p.m. Sunday on Babenhausen Casern. Activities include music, face painting and games. Fireworks at dusk.

■ **Bamberg:** Community barbecue and fair at Friendship Park, Warner Barracks, beginning 11 a.m. Sunday. Fireworks at 10 p.m.

■ **Bamholder:** Celebration from 11 a.m. until midnight at Hall of Champions parking lot on main base. Events include Harley-Davidson motorcycle rally at



Photos courtesy of the U.S. Army

**A happy customer eats cotton candy, a carnival tradition, during 2003's Festa Americana in Vicenza, Italy.**

3 p.m., pie-eating contest at 4:15 p.m., "Fear Factor" contest at 5:20 p.m. and fireworks at 10:30 p.m., followed by performance by the band All That. Other bands will perform throughout the day.

■ **Darmstadt:** Activities begin at 6 p.m. Sunday in Lincoln Village housing area, including music, face painting and games. Fireworks at dusk.

■ **Gien (including Friedberg, Butzbach and Bad Nauheim):** Community celebration in Butzbach housing area, Roman Way Village. A German-American fest picnic starts at 6 p.m. and continues until shortly before midnight. Music by Frankfurt variety band. Fireworks around 10 p.m.

■ **Hanan (including Bidingen and Gelhausen):** Two-day community celebration begins Saturday with fun run at 11 a.m., and boxing tournament, starting at 6 p.m. On Sunday, a two-pitch softball tournament begins at 10 a.m., and a community festival starts at 3 p.m. in the 4th Brigade headquarters parking lot on Fliegerhorst Casern. Fireworks around 10:30 p.m. The nearby Gelhausen airport will hold a small air show, including a parachute drop and static display with planes from World Wars I and II.

■ **Heidelberg:** Festivities, including arts and crafts show, music and martial arts demonstrations, begin at 4 p.m. Sunday in Patrick Henry Village. Fireworks at 10:30 p.m.

■ **Kaiserslautern:** Freedom Fest 2004 at Ramstein Air Base, beginning at noon Friday and continuing through fireworks on Sunday.

■ **Mannheim:** Community celebration 2 p.m. to midnight in Benjamin Franklin Village. Mannheim Summer Fest closing activities include live music, karaoke and rides. Fireworks at 10:30 p.m.

■ **Rhein-Main:** Celebration 3-9 p.m. Friday at Rhein-Main Air Base Gateway Gardens housing area. Activities include bicycle rally and parade, carnival games, apple pie-eating contest and fun run.

■ **Spangdahlem:** 48th annual BASH Friday through Monday at the French Kaserne in Bitburg from 6-10 p.m. Friday, noon to 12:30 a.m. Saturday, noon to 11 p.m. Sunday and noon to 10 p.m. Monday. International BASH Bazaar is noon to 6 p.m. Friday through Sunday inside Bitburg gym.

■ **Stuttgart:** Four-day All-American Fourth of July celebration on Robinson Barracks begins at 6 p.m. Thursday and continues through Sunday. Events start at noon other three days; Sunday is family day with all carnival rides half-price. Highlights include: keg-tapping ceremony at 6 p.m. Thursday; "Kids Idol" competition for youth 18 and younger, noon to 3 p.m. Friday; flea market 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday; fireworks at 10:30 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Wiesbaden:** Celebration begins with Patriotic Paws and Pals 5K Fun Run/Walk at 10 a.m. Saturday at Gen. H.H. Arnold High School parking lot. Community fest at Wiesbaden Army Airfield begins 4 p.m. Sunday and features carnival rides, children's activities, live music, food booths and exhibits. Galaxy football cheerleaders perform at 8 p.m., with fireworks at 10:30 p.m. Free shuttle bus service from all housing areas, including American Arms Hotel and Desheim Andersen Barracks.

■ **Würzburg:** Events at Leighton Barracks are 3-11 p.m. Sunday with fireworks at 10:30 p.m.

Italy



**Children go for a ride on the bumper cars at the carnival during 2003's Festa Americana at Caserma Ederle.**

■ **Aviano:** Community celebration at Aviano Air Base on Saturday and Sunday, including softball and football games during day and concerts at night. Carnival rides, food booths and crafts open noon to midnight. Fireworks 10:20 p.m. Sunday.

■ **Vicenza:** Activities for Festa Americana at Caserma Ederle start Thursday and continue through Sunday, with Thursday's events limited to ID card holders. Activities for children start at 4 p.m. and run through midnight, with live music starting at 6 p.m. Base is open to public from 6 p.m. to midnight Friday through Sunday. Fireworks at 10 p.m. Friday. A giant screen television will be set up Sunday night to show European Cup soccer.

## Netherlands

■ **Schinnen:** Two-day celebration begins at 10 a.m. Saturday with 5K fun run, followed by opening of amusement rides at 1 p.m. and adult and youth karaoke, food, live music and bowling tournament. Sunday activities start at 1 p.m. and culminate around 10:45 p.m. with fireworks. Also, three-day bazaar runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday through Sunday. Open to U.S. and NATO ID cardholders as well as Dutch Ministry of Defense civilian employees assigned to the 25th BSB and their guests. Shuttle service from Terborgh Castle overland parking area to the installation.

## Portugal

■ **Lajes Field, Azores:** On Sunday, festivities begin with disc jockey music, games, food booths at 5 p.m. Music continues with an Air Force jazz group performing from 7-7:45 p.m. and 8:25-9:30 p.m. Fireworks are slated for 10:45 p.m.

## Spain

■ **Morón:** On Sunday, festivities begin with a softball game, car show and barbecue at 5 p.m. There will be a social and karaoke from 9:30 to 11 p.m. at the club. Fireworks will be at 11 p.m.

■ **Rota:** Independence Day Freedom Fest will be Friday at Port Park, beginning with 4K on the 4th Run at 3:30 p.m., followed by a parade at 4, entertainment, games and activities beginning at 5:30 and fireworks at 11.

## Turkey

■ **Incirlık:** Independence Day celebration will be Friday and will include a fun run, games for kids and food booths opening on the air base at 3 p.m. A Turkish cultural dance performance is set for 5 p.m., followed by a jazz concert and fireworks at 9 p.m.

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# Anthrax, smallpox inoculations expanded

## Supply increases mean Pacific, CENTCOM to get immunizations

By SANDRA JONTZ  
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Pentagon is expanding its controversial anthrax and smallpox immunization programs to "tens of thousands" of U.S. troops and on heading to the Pacific and Central Command areas, the top Pentagon health official said Wednesday.

The expanded program is a result of an increase in the supply of the vaccines and not a change in threat conditions against troops, civilian workers and their families, said William Winkenwerder Jr., assistant secretary of defense for Health Affairs.

"With an increase in the amount of vaccine available, particularly for anthrax, we will now vaccinate personnel assigned to selected units in the U.S. Pacific Command, additional personnel serving in the U.S. Central Com-

mand, and selected other groups of individuals," Winkenwerder said.

This will be the first time forces on the Korean Peninsula will be inoculated since the Pentagon resumed the program in June 2002, Winkenwerder said. The manufacturer had to temporarily stop production after it changed how the vaccine was made and awaited approval from the Food and Drug Administration.

"I don't have precise numbers for you in terms of aggregate number of additional personnel," Winkenwerder said. "It's into tens of thousands. But, of course,

with rotations of forces occurring at periods of time, actually that number will increase."

Between two-thirds and three-fourths of troops deployed to the Middle East have received the vaccines.

Wednesday's change will make it mandatory that all personnel deployed to the region be vaccinated. However, the department will not inoculate those exempt for health reasons, but exempted personnel still are deployable, he said.

Expanding the program to the Pacific does not reflect a change in threat levels posed against U.S. forces, civilians and their families, said Winkenwerder and Army Brig. Gen. David Rodriguez,

deputy director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"The threat has not changed," Rodriguez said.

**"The threat condition, we believe, has not changed since the point at which we implemented these programs earlier."**

**William Winkenwerder Jr.**  
assistant secretary of defense  
for Health Affairs

"I think that's the bottom-line message," Winkenwerder said. "The threat condition, we believe, has not changed since the point at which we implemented these programs earlier."

However, intelligence on suspected capabilities and motives of some adversaries make the Pacific and Central Command areas more of a threat than other regions in the world, prompting the department to vaccinate those troops and personnel, Rodriguez said.

Winkenwerder offered no time line, but said vaccinations for the expanded group "will begin in

the very near future."

A memo issued Monday by Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz directs the services to begin inoculating, with both the anthrax and smallpox vaccines, uniformed personnel going to the Korean Peninsula for 15 days or more.

The group includes the Pacific Command Forward Deployed Naval Forces, emergency-essential and equivalent civilian employees assigned to Korea, contractor personnel carrying out mission-essential services in Korea, and expand the program to include all personnel in the CENTCOM region.

Wolfowitz's memo also instructs the services to make the vaccines available, on a voluntary basis, to family members and other DOD civilians in Korea.

Some maintain the vaccines cause health problems and some have accepted separation from service or disciplinary action for disobeying an order rather than take it.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil



Winkenwerder

## Stars and Stripes Messages of Support

★ ABEL H. — ALWAYS SUPPORTING YOU OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU AND THE OTHER SOLDIERS ALL YOUR FAMILY THINKING OF YOU ALWAYS TAKE CARE! MISS YOU!  
(HERNANDEZ-AYALA-MONCADA)

★ To the Brave Men and Women of the US Armed Forces, Thank you for your bravery and commitment to America. We here at home, the majority, are praying constantly for your safety and victory. You make us proud! God Bless, Mr. and Mrs. Troy C. from Vail, Arizona

★ MAY GOD KEEP YOU SAFE AND PROTECT YOU ALL WHILE YOU'RE OVERSEAS FIGHTING FOR US IN THE US.  
SUE

★ We are very proud and support the finest Men and Women fighting in the Middle East. May everyone stay safe and come home to a heroes welcome upon your return to the best country on earth. Bless you all for you are in our prayers daily. Penny and Chet in N.J.

★ To all the troops in the Middle East, We are behind you 100% and know that you are all in our prayers. We pray that your mission is successful and that you return home to your loved ones as soon as possible. We know that your job is a difficult one and we are thankful and appreciate that you are there defending our freedom. I served with the Air Force 20 years ago but I never faced what all of you are having to face. God bless you and bring you home. Sharon & Tim McMillan, East Carondelet, Illinois

★ This message is for Heather & Jimmy from Fort Hood, Texas. We all love you & can't wait for your safe return home! You are in our daily thoughts & prayers. Love, Grandma Liza, Debbie, & Denny

★ Also - A Big THANKS goes out to ALL the services men & women! Return home soon!!

★ Eric, Hello! I want to let you know I'm thinking of you everyday and hope that you are safe. We all pray for your safety home and that include everybody there with you. I love you see you soon. Love, Jessica

★ This is for the cream of the crop. Who claim to have a lot of cream. Your in my thoughts and prayers. Love Kat

★ Dear Sailor/Soldier, My name is Lee Anne I. and I teach fourth grade in New Jersey. I just want you to know how much we support you. We think of you each and every day and are praying for your safe return. Each classroom in our school has something patriotic in it. We think of you each time we salute the flag and each time someone mentions the word, "hero." The kids today are learning that YOU are people they can look up to and that YOU are the true heroes of the world. Words could never express our gratitude and appreciation. Take care and thank you again for protecting America. Sincerely, Lee Anne I.

★ Dear Sailor/Soldier, I really admire your bravery, and I wish I was that brave. I know we'll win the war. Cause were the best and we'll never rest. When the war is done we'll still be #1. From, Katja (4th grade

★ To L. Braboy: I wanted to let you how proud I am for what you are doing and that the baby and I miss you and love you with all of our hearts. Please be safe and come home soon!! Love always and forever, Your wife and son Brooke

★ To the Men & Women of our arm forces I support you and thank you for fighting for our freedom. May Gods hands watch over you and protect you God Bless America & our troops. G. Warren from Bismarck, North Dakota

★ In memory of SFC P. L. KLOEFTER RETIRED ARMY. I PRAY FOR ALL OF YOU AND AM SO PROUD OF OUR FIGHTING MEN. MY HUSBAND SERVED 3 TOURS IN VIETNAM. LOVE TO ALL. J. KLOEFTER

★ Just wanted to let everyone know that you are in our prayers and thoughts every second of the day. You are what makes America the wonderful place that it is. Thank you for your sacrifices and all that you do for us and our Country. We are proud to have you serve us and our families. Thank you once again. Farrah

★ Hi guys, Just a note to let you all know that we are all thinking of you. I'm not from America and I don't know anyone in the British or American army but I felt that had to write a few words of support. You are all extremely brave and I'm hoping the war will be over soon so you can return safe and well to your loved ones, families and friends. Frances (Aberdeen Scotland UK)



## IN THE STATES

# Steinberg, killed adopted child, 6, leaves NY prison

## Former lawyer served nearly 17 years for 1987 vicious beating of daughter

The Associated Press

PINE CITY, N.Y. — Infamous child killer Joel Steinberg was released from prison Wednesday after nearly 17 years behind bars for the 1987 beating death of his 6-year-old adopted daughter.

The former lawyer, now 63, served two-thirds of the maximum 25-year manslaughter sentence. He has continued to deny responsibility for the girl's death.

Steinberg left the upstate prison with \$104 in earnings from his inmate account and was picked up in a limousine by defense attorney Darnay Hoffman.

Lisa Steinberg died in November 1987, three days after a vicious beating in the Greenwich Village apartment where she lived with Steinberg and his former lover, Hedda Nussbaum.

Nussbaum called police after

finding the 6-year-old naked, bruised and not breathing. Nussbaum, initially a co-defendant, herself had a split lip, broken ribs, a broken nose and a fractured jaw she said were inflicted by Steinberg.

According to Nussbaum's testimony, Steinberg struck Lisa for staring at him, then ignored her injuries and smoked cocaine.

Nussbaum, 59, who said she would flee New York rather than face Steinberg again, quit her job Friday at My Sister's Place, a domestic violence center in White Plains, Executive Director Julie Domonkos said Wednesday.

Hoffman has said he offered Steinberg a free apartment and a \$250-a-week job with a local cable television show. Steinberg will have to make regular visits to a parole officer through October 2012. Now disbarred, he worked in prison as a paralegal.



AP photos

Above: Southport Correctional Facility Sgt. Rick Latterell, right, checks attorney Darnay Hoffman at the front gate Wednesday in Pine City, N.Y. Hoffman arrived in a white limousine to pick up his client, Joel Steinberg, who became a free man after serving 15 years for the 1987 beating death of his six-year-old adopted daughter. Left: Steinberg appears at his sentencing in New York state Supreme Court in March 1989.



# Fed raises key interest rate by a quarter of one point

BY JEANNINE AVERSA

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve boosted a key short-term interest rate by a one-quarter percentage point Wednesday, its first rate increase in four years, in an attempt to keep the economy and inflation on an even keel.

Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan and his Federal Open Market Committee colleagues — the group that sets interest rate policy in the United States — increased the federal funds rate to 1.25 percent. The funds rate, the Fed's primary tool for influencing economic activity, had been at 1 percent, a 46-year low, for a year.

As a result of the Fed's decision to push up the funds rate, commercial banks' were expected to increase by a corresponding amount their prime lending rate

for many short-term consumer and business loans. The prime rate, which has been at 4 percent, the lowest level in more than four decades for a year, is expected to rise to 4.25 percent.

The economy has been a hot topic in the presidential campaign with President Bush insisting things are rebounding and Sen. John Kerry talking about a squeeze on the middle class. Analysts said voters will likely see little impact on the economy between now and November from the Fed's action.

Fed policy-makers, wrapping up a two-day meeting Wednesday, also held to the view that they could gradually raise rates to head off inflation. The Fed said it believes any rate increases can be "at a pace that is likely to be measured."

The Fed made clear, however,

it will take more aggressive action if needed. This restated a position that Greenspan had articulated earlier.

The committee will respond to changes in economic prospects as needed to fulfill its obligation to maintain price stability," the Fed policy-makers said.

Their latest assessment of the state of the economy was upbeat. The Fed said the economy is expanding at a solid pace and that labor markets are improving. On the inflation front, the Fed said that "although incoming inflation data are somewhat elevated, a portion of the increase in recent months appears to have been due to transitory factors."

Hours before the Fed's announcement, White House spokesman Scott McClellan said: "It's not unexpected that as the economy continues growing stronger that interest rates may rise some. That's not something at this point that is a concern."

A one-quarter point increase would not deter the economic recovery, but it will put the Fed on a course of higher borrowing costs, geared in part to head off inflation, economists said.

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# Report: 1 in 10 students face sex misconduct

BY BEN FELLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than 4.5 million children are forced to endure sexual misconduct by school employees, from inappropriate comments to physical abuse, according to an exhaustive review of research that reads like a parent's worst nightmare.

The best estimate is that almost one in 10 children, sometime between kindergarten and 12th grade, are targets of behavior ranging from unprofessional to criminal, says the report for Congress by Charol Shakeshaft, a professor at Hofstra University's School of Education.

"Most people just don't think this can really happen," said Shakeshaft, hired by the Education Department to study the prevalence of sexual abuse in schools. "We imagine that all teachers are like most teachers, in that they've gone into teaching to help children. Most do, but not all. We need to

**"We imagine that all teachers ... [go] into teaching to help children. Most do, but not all."**

**Charol Shakeshaft**  
author of report on sexual misconduct in schools

acknowledge that's the case and do something to stop it."

The report, required under the No Child Left Behind law and delivered to Congress on Wednesday, is the first to analyze the field of research about sexual misconduct at school.

Some educators immediately took issue with its approach, mainly the combining of sexual abuse with other behavior, such as gestures or notes, into one broad misconduct category.

But another prominent researcher supported the findings, suggesting, as Shakeshaft did, that they may even underestimate the problem. And the American Association of University Women, whose surveys of students were at the core of the new report, stood by its research.

There have been no nationally financed studies to collect data about how common sexual misconduct is in school, one of many areas Shakeshaft suggests must be addressed.

Her analysis covered almost 900 documents and reviews that have dealt with the topic in some way, from private research and newspaper stories to reports for government agencies.

What she found portrays a problem that, no matter how uncommon, united groups of teachers, superintendents, parents and education leaders in concern — and disgust.

The report describes schools as places where abusers come to prey, targeting vul-

nerable and marginal students who are afraid to complain or unlikely to be believed if they did. It describes adults who trap, lie and isolate children, making them subject to unwanted behavior in hallways, offices, buses or even right in front of other students in class. And the offenders work hard to keep kids from telling, threatening to fail or humiliate them.

Misconduct is defined in the report as physical, verbal or visual behavior, from sexually related jokes or pictures of sex to fondling of breasts and forced sex.

Shakeshaft did not limit her review to sexual abuse because, she says, that would exclude other unacceptable adult behaviors that can drive kids from school and harm them for years.

The report found teachers are the most common offenders, followed by coaches, substitute teachers, bus drivers and teacher aides. Among students, 56 percent of those targeted are girls, and 44 percent are boys, a smaller gap than commonly expected, Shakeshaft said.

## Statue of Liberty reopening ... partly

BY STEVE STRUNSKY

The Associated Press

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The National Park Service has vowed to restore the public's ability to enter the Statue of Liberty's six-story pedestal this summer.

The event will be commemorated on Independence Day this Sunday with a special addition to the Macy's fireworks display, but the pedestal's reopening will not happen until late July or August.

And even then the inside of the 118-year-old statue will remain closed for security reasons.

"The question has been asked, 'Are you saying no one can ever, ever go back in the statue again?'" said Brian Feeney, parks service spokesman. "We're not saying that."

The problem is that the interior of the statue, which used to be accessible by a narrow spiral staircase, cannot be adequately secured.

The pedestal, which contains the Statue of Liberty Museum, has had \$7 million in improvements. They include improved lighting, a new fire suppression system and fire walls. There will be an additional staircase for exiting the pedestal and Fort Wood, the old stone fort on which the statue rests.

The pedestal also will have an outdoor observation deck, where visitors will be able to walk around the statue's perimeter, and several undisclosed security measures, Feeney said.

The entire 58-acre island, which is accessible by ferries from Battery Park in New York City and Liberty State Park in Jersey City, was closed from the attacks until Dec. 20, 2001.

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# O'Malley: Vatican slow in handling church abuses

The Associated Press

BOSTON — Archbishop Sean P. O'Malley, in Rome to receive a special honor from Pope John Paul II, expressed frustration with the slow pace of Vatican officials in handling the cases of about two dozen Boston-area priests accused of sexual abuse.

Speaking to Boston reporters during a visit to the Vatican, O'Malley said the logjam is unfair to both the priests and the abuse victims.

"The process has been very slow, and I'm very frustrated by that," he said. "The resources here are inadequate to be able to expedite the cases with the facility that we'd like to see."

Priests can be suspended by local church officials, but cannot be removed from the priesthood without Vatican permission.

O'Malley is among the church leaders who have grown concerned with how long Vatican officials are taking to look at the cases of abusive priests.

O'Malley made the comments while in Rome to receive a pallium — a woolen band bestowed on archbishops — from the Pope on Tuesday, the archbishop's 60th birthday. He said he planned to meet with Vatican officials to express his worries, and to urge the Vatican to allow American canon lawyers to help move cases along.

O'Malley said the process also has been hindered by a lack of cooperation from some alleged victims and their attorneys.

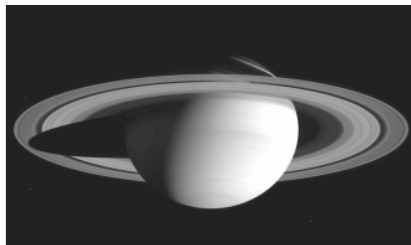
"My frustration, too, is sometimes getting the cooperation that we need from the victims, from those who are accusing, to be able to testify in cases," he said. "That's something we're trying desperately to arrange."

Boston attorney Mitchell Garabedian, who represents more than 100 alleged victims of abusive priests, said some victims are able to participate in the process, and others aren't.

"Some victims just don't trust investigators for the church or any other church official, but I believe there are many who would speak to investigators," he said Tuesday.

Church rules for handling abuse allegations require the local church to investigate and, if there appears to be sufficient evidence, inform the Vatican and suspend the priest. The Vatican can decide the case or send it back to the diocese to be tried in a church court.

While it's not clear how many cases are pending, Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said in January that allegations have resulted in about 700 priests and deacons being temporarily removed from ministry nationally in the last two years.



This composite of two images, taken by the Cassini spacecraft on May 7 and released Tuesday, shows a wide view of Saturn. The white dots in the image are some of Saturn's moons.

The Cassini-Huygens mission is a cooperative project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency.

AP

# After seven years, Cassini set to enter Saturn's orbit

BY JOHN ANTICZAK

The Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — After nearly seven years of travel, the international Cassini spacecraft is finally within striking distance of its heavenly destination: Saturn.

The U.S.-European spacecraft was due to enter Saturn's orbit Wednesday night to begin a four-year tour of the giant planet, its shimmering rings and some of its 31 known moons.

"We're right on track," navigation team chief Jeremy Jones told a press conference Tuesday at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Cassini was programmed to ascend through a gap between two of Saturn's rings, fire its rocket for 96

minutes to slow down, and then descend back through the ring plane.

Cassini program manager Robert Mitchell called orbit insertion a "hair-graying" event, but he and other officials expressed confidence in a successful outcome.

The \$3.3 billion mission was launched Kennedy Space Center on Oct. 15, 1997.

Cassini, laden with a dozen instruments, also carries a probe named Huygens that will be launched into the murky atmosphere of the moon Titan. The frozen moon intrigues scientists because it may have many of the chemical compounds that existed on Earth before life began.

Scientists see the Saturn system as a model of the early solar system when the sun was surrounded

by a disk of material. Studying it may increase understanding of how the planets formed.

Images taken by Cassini this month showed Titan has complex surface markings and individual bright areas.

The presence of carbon molecules may mean that Titan is similar to what Earth was like more than 4 billion years ago, before life appeared, he said.

Huygens will enter Titan's atmosphere in early January, radioing findings back to Cassini as it makes a lengthy descent by parachute. Scientists don't know if Huygens will land on a hard surface or splash down into an ethane-methane ocean.

"I just hope, or maybe dream, that we are really going to see oceans on Titan," Lebreton said.

# Revelers warned to be careful with fireworks

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hospital emergency rooms for firework-related injuries dipped by one-quarter in the past decade, but rose slightly from 2002 to 2003, federal regulators said Wednesday as they urged Americans to safely celebrate the Fourth of July.

Fireworks accidents resulted in some 9,300 emergency room visits last year, including about 6,800 in the month surrounding Independence Day, the Consumer Product Safety Commission said.

Though that's a slight jump from the 8,800 injuries reported in 2002, emergency room visits generally have gone down since reaching highs of 12,500 in 1992 and 1994.

CPSC Chairman Hal Stratton attributed the decline to better enforcement against illegal fireworks, more consumer safety awareness and improvements by some manufacturers.

"The best thing parents can do to keep their families safe this Fourth of July is to understand the basic safety tips for fireworks, including never trying to re-light

a 'dud' and using only legal, consumer fireworks," Stratton said.

Males suffered about 72 percent of all injuries and children under 15 accounted for almost half the report said.

The commission noted six deaths related to fireworks last year, though it listed separately five fire in a New York Island nightclub that killed 100 people and was blamed on indoor pyrotechnics.

The government distributed the following safety tips:

- Make sure fireworks are legal in the area before buying or using.
- Adults should always supervise.
- Never try to re-light or pick up fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Never allow young children to ignite fireworks.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Keep a bucket of water or a hose handy in case of fire or other mishap.
- Light one item at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them in metal or glass containers.

# Messages of Support



Hi, I would like to express my deepest gratitude for what you are doing for us. Some people in this country just don't know how lucky we truly are. Please pay no mind to those misguided morons laying in the street in protest. They know not what they do. But I do. My family is extremely appreciative for you all's service in our armed forces. We LOVE you and pray for you every single day. I take quiet time EVERY day just to pray VERY hard for you. With a force like us behind you, you can't lose. You have America's collective heart and soul behind you. You have the faith, prayers and love from millions of people behind you. KNOW THAT!!!!!!!



We pray for your safe return, your success in your missions and victory. With GREAT people like you all serving it's sure to be a success. They don't know who they're messing with over there! You are the best, the bravest and the strongest. We are truly lucky to have people like you protecting us. I can't thank you ENOUGH. PLEASE KNOW THAT YOUR EFFORTS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED. I can't emphasize this enough! THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU



Dear Troops, My family really appreciates the work your doing in order for us to be safe and have our valued freedoms we are so use to having. We hope you are all safe and return home soon. Thanks for all the work you do! Denise and family



I want to get this message out to my husband Darius, We love you and miss you terribly. Hurry home baby, your wife Tonya

YOU! God Bless the United States of America! Dan-Ft. Lauderdale



To all the Armed forces, We love each and everyone of you, weather you are on the front lines or in the Mod, staff or news reporters and etc. We see how brave you all are. We also see the great progress you have achieved. Pres. Bush is so very proud of your accomplishments as we all are. The people are marching in support of all of YOU! Keep your head down and your Hearts up. We love you all!!!! Stay Brave, Stay Safe. The Clevelands /South Elgin IL



Dear Troops, My family really appreciates the work your doing in order for us to be safe and have our valued freedoms we are so use to having. We hope you are all safe and return home soon. Thanks for all the work you do! Denise and family



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## Hot time in Alaska

**AK** FAIRBANKS — Ice, bottled water, wading pools and fans are hot commodities for residents seeking ways to cool down in near record-breaking temperatures in Alaska's interior.

The items are flying off shelves faster than they can be restocked, according to store managers.

"We've sold more fans this year than we have ever sold," said Scott McCulloch, manager of the Fred Meyer store in West Fairbanks.

"In the last 10 days, we've topped 1,000 [in sales]," he said.

Temperatures in Fairbanks reached 84 degrees on Sunday, and it was a steamy 88 degrees at Fort Wainwright, a high for the state.

## SUV's splash landing

**HI** HONOLULU — A special tour truck was brought in to lift an SUV from a backyard swimming pool in Hawaii Kai.

Honeywax Katherine Peacock was marking her 80th birthday Saturday when she saw the vehicle fly through the air and crash into eight feet of water in her pool.

The husband and wife in the SUV escaped injury.

The woman had been taking a driving lesson. She had turned onto Niumalu Loop when she swerved to avoid an oncoming car and crashed through Peacock's fence and into her pool.

## Dress code protest

**KY** LOUISVILLE — The ACLU is objecting to a ban on sports jerseys, sleeveless shirts and backward baseball caps in Louisville's new nightclub district, saying the dress code is biased against blacks and poor people.

The ACLU has given the developer of the month-old Fourth Street Live power to enforce its dress code three nights a week during special events along the blocklong stretch of restaurants, bars and shops. During those nights, the city street is blocked off, and bouncers decide who does or doesn't meet the dress code.

## Hiking tragedy

**ME** MILLINOCKET — A rock slide on a popular trail on Mount Katahdin killed one hiker who became trapped under a boulder and injured another, officials said.

The injured hiker and two other people caught in last week's rock slide were rescued and walked down the mountain during the night, said Irvin "Buzz" Caverly Jr., director of Baxter State Park in northern Maine.

About 60 people helped search Katahdin, Maine's highest peak and the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail, for a group of four hikers. The slide occurred at about 4,100 feet along Cathedral Trail in the mile-high mountain's south basin.

The crew of a Maine Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter removed the body of Roger Cooper, 52, Caverly said.

## Squeaking by

**NY** NEW YORK — About 1,500 third-graders who had been

## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

in danger of being held back for a year will be allowed to enter the fourth grade in the fall, the Department of Education said.

The students can move forward because reviews of their portfolios found class work that was considered stronger than their scores on citywide math and reading tests, officials said Thursday.

More than 9,000 third-graders still remain at risk of failing after scoring poorly on at least one of the exams and can at retake the tests after attending summer school this summer.

## Carolina celebrates

**SC** CHARLESTON — While the nation celebrates July Fourth next weekend, Charlestonians on Monday celebrated another important date from the year 1776.

Carolina Day is the anniversary of the Battle of Sullivan's Island when, just a few days before independence was declared in Philadelphia, Americans manning a fort of sand and palmetto logs turned back a British fleet intent on seizing Charleston.

Sullivan's Island was the first decisive victory of the Revolution for the patriots, coming days before the Declaration of Independence. Ten Americans were killed and 22 wounded in the fight.

"This was the day when the bed-

rock of our own liberty was carved out here in the Carolinas," said Rev. Philip Bryant, the pastor of the Huguenot Church which was organized in 1681.

## Wedding death

**VT** ISLE LA

**MOTTE** — A burst of wind uprooted a tent minutes after Jason and Carrie Guyette were married recently, killing one and injuring more than a dozen wedding guests.

The groom's step-grandmother was killed after a falling pole hit her. Police and hospital officials did not release her name.

Seven people were transported to area hospitals by ambulance.

Six were treated at Northwestern Medical Center in St. Albans for minor cuts, scrapes, abrasions and lacerations, Nursing Supervisor Valerie Martel said. One person was held overnight with a concussion and lacerations.

## Car porn conviction

**NY** SCHENECTADY — A man caught playing an adult film in his car will now have to serve jail time.

Andre Gainey, 35, of Clifton Park, pleaded guilty to public display of sexual material and two other misdemeanors. Gainey's expected to draw a 30-day jail term when he's sentenced in August.

Gainey's lawyer, Patrick Greene, said Gainey didn't know he was breaking the law when he played the X-rated DVD on three screens visible from the outside of his Mercedes-Benz in February.

Police officers noticed the movie as Gainey drove near the downtown headquarters, 10 miles northwest of Albany.

## Top fugitive nabbed

**TX** LAREDO — One of the U.S. Marshals' Service most wanted fugitives was in a South Texas jail.

Robert Glenn Brown, 30, was arrested Sunday without incident after police got a tip about his hide-out in a subdivision, police said.

Brown was wanted in connection with a 2003 shooting death of Larry Hawkins, according to a U.S. Marshals' statement. Brown was seen driving a stolen motorcycle and in possession of items stolen from Hawkins, eyewitnesses told police in Monday's editions of the Laredo Morning Times.

## Recess from the law

**CA** SACRAMENTO — Lawmakers can begin a month-long summer recess if they approve a new state budget this week. The July 1 budget deadline is often elusive. California is one of only a handful of states that require more than simple majorities to pass state budgets.

## Ship becomes reef

**FL** DAYTONA BEACH — A Dutch trawler that was once used to fish for herring and mackerel off the coast of Europe was sunk Tuesday off central Florida's coast. The 165-foot Antilles Star will become the state's newest artificial reef. It will be sunk about 17 nautical miles northwest of Ponce de Leon Inlet.



## Look out

The SA-60 low-altitude surveillance airship begins its descent over a field at Captain

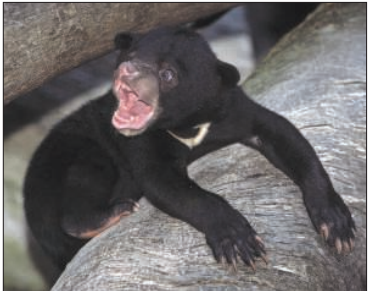
Walter Francis Duke Regional Airport in Hollywood, Md., during a demonstration flight for the media. The airship, which is 62 feet round and weighs 4,500 pounds, reached an altitude of 10,700 feet. The prototype, built by Techsphere Systems, is being considered for military use.



## A scenic trip

A kayaker paddles on Moosehead Lake at Lily Bay State Park in May in Beaver Cove, Maine.

The 3,200-foot Big Moose Mountain rises near the southwestern shore.



## Little explorer

A Bornean sun bear cub named

Duma calls to his mom while

exploring his Sun Bear Forest exhibit at the San Diego Zoo. It was the first time the 4-month old cub, born Feb. 17, has left his den to explore the outdoor exhibit.



## New friend

Tucker Legg, 7, of Mustang, Okla., looks at a Buckeye butterfly Monday in Oklahoma City during a dedication ceremony of the new "Flowers in Flight" exhibit at the Oklahoma City Zoo.





**Making a splash**  
first opened Dec. 23, 1924.

Kids looking to escape the summer heat leap into the Venetian Pool on Monday in Coral Gables, Fla. The historic Venetian Pool is spring-fed and



## Big air

Extreme freestyle motocross rider Pat Darnell, of Kirkland, Wash., flies through the air on his way to a landing during the Big Air Bash at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds. Darnell is a member of the Metal Militia trick team.



## Comic crawler

A worker hangs a seven-story Spider-Man on the side of the Suncoast Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas. The casino is home to a cinema multiplex. "Spider-Man 2" opened June 30 in the States.



## Nighttime coming

The setting sun casts a deep orange glow over downtown Daytona Beach, Fla., and the cross of a local church.

## West Virginia winds

**WV** CHARLESTON — Two West Virginia congressmen, believing wind turbines are an eyesore and a threat to migratory birds, want congressional auditors to study such energy projects along the Appalachian Mountains.

Rep. Alan Mollohan and Nick Rahall, both D-W.Va., asked the General Accounting Office last week to examine how wind turbines are regulated and what effects the projects have on birds in several Mid-Atlantic states, including West Virginia.

"There is nothing more beautiful than my West Virginia hills," Mollohan said. "And I don't need windmills to re-landscape God's glory and my West Virginia hills."

## Registration thefts

**NH** NASHUA — A former clerk in the city's Department of Motor Vehicle Registration is accused of stealing about \$10,000 during her two-year stint.

Police last week charged Jene Courroun Leonard, 24, with felony theft, which carries a prison sentence of up to 15 years.

Leonard is accused of pocketing cash paid in state and city licensing fees and not sending the registration information to the state Division of Motor Vehicles.

Auditors are trying to determine how many Nashua vehicles on the road are unregistered.

## Judge sorry for remark

**NY** NEW YORK — A federal judge offered his "profound regret" for saying President Bush's rise to power was similar to that of Mussolini and Hitler.

Judge Guido Calabresi, 71, of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Manhattan, drew an audible gasp from lawyers attending a convention of the American Constitution Society in Washington, according to the New York Sun, which quoted the speech last week.

"My remarks were extemporaneous and, in hindsight, reasonably could be — and indeed have been — understood to do something which I did not intend, that is, take a partisan position," Calabresi wrote in a letter of apology to Chief Justice John Walker.

## School museum

**MS** JACKSON — A museum documenting the history and accomplishments of an all-black school will open this week.

The Picayune Carver Culture Museum Board founded the museum in honor of George Washington Carver High School and its former students.

During segregation the school managed to field a nationally ranked football team and sent students to top colleges.

## Indiana deadbeat list

**IN** INDIANAPOLIS — Beginning Thursday, the Indiana Department of Revenue will post on its Web site the names of individuals and businesses who haven't paid tax bills of \$1,000 or more for at least two years and have warrants against them.

The agency collected more than \$900,000 in back taxes after sending warning letters in mid-May to

delinquent taxpayers.

## Juvenile camp flap

**NM** FORT STANTON — A state proposal to close a juvenile corrections camp near Ruidoso has run into opposition.

Camp Sierra Blanca houses low-risk, nonviolent teenage offenders.

Officials say the camp is losing money, has fire safety problems and houses only 21 teens.

Supporters, including judges and police chiefs, say it has an outstanding record of rehabilitating young people.

## Overdue diploma

**NY** NEW YORK — A valedictorian, denied her diploma after she criticized her high school during a graduation speech, will receive the diploma at a ceremony on Thursday.

The decision to grant Tiffany Schley her diploma from the High School of Legal Studies was made after a tearful Schley, her mother and supporters held a news conference Monday outside City Hall to demand an apology from education officials.

In her graduation speech last week, Schley criticized her Brooklyn high school, citing such issues as overcrowding and inadequate testing and guidance counseling.

When she later went to pick up her diploma, she was refused and told to apologize — a move the mayor termed a "bonehead" decision made by a "bozo."

## Police misconduct

**MN** MINNEAPOLIS — The city has already paid more than \$1 million to settle police misconduct claims than in any 12-month reporting period since 1998, officials said.

Since December 2003, the city has paid \$1.6 million to resolve seven cases.

Minneapolis city attorney's office calls this year's settlements an aberration.

The record pace has some council members concerned.

## Yellow ribbon 'thief'

**IA** BETTENDORF — When yellow ribbons in Bob Saskowski's yard started disappearing, he suspected evil intentions.

"Every time it disappeared, I would hang a new one," said Saskowski, who tied the ribbons with his wife, Alexis, in support of their son and other troops in Iraq.

The disappearances went on for eight months.

The last straw for Saskowski was when three ribbons disappeared in three days.

So Bob Saskowski appealed to his neighbors, asking them to talk to their teenagers about respect and patriotism and asked for their help.

Neighbors responded by adding yellow ribbons to the trees in their yards in defiance of the thief.

The ribbons kept disappearing, but only from the Saskowski yard. Six weeks later, they caught the culprit on videotape.

The ribbons were being shimmed slowly down the trunk by a squirrel.

"We can laugh now," Saskowski said. "Before, it was not funny."

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

## IN THE WORLD

## Duraao Barroso tapped to be top EU exec



Portuguese Prime Minister and newly appointed European Commission President Jose Durao Barroso gestures Thursday during a media conference at the European Council headquarters in Brussels.

BY ROBERT WIELAARD  
The Associated Press

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Jose Durao Barroso, the Portuguese prime minister and next European Commission president, says he will be the strong leader at the EU head office who will ensure big nations do not run roughshod over their smaller partners.

Speaking after his unanimous nomination Tuesday by the 25 EU leaders, Durao Barroso told reporters the EU needs "strong" leadership, as well as "balance between the big and the small, the rich and the poor."

As European Commission president, he will need people skills to reconcile differences among EU capitals and credibly represent Europe abroad — notably in Washington.

He will also need to uphold the European tradition of watching out that rights of small member states are not trampled

on by Britain, Germany, France and Italy, the four biggest EU nations.

The EU leaders' unanimous decision to put Durao Barroso at the top of the EU executive ended weeks of acrimony over who would be the best candidate to succeed Italy's Romano Prodi, who steps down at the end of October.

Duraao Barroso was picked after nearly a dozen other candidates were rejected in haggling among the EU members that mirrored divisions over the Iraq war.

Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern, the summit chairman, told reporters the bloc's leaders took no vote, but accepted Durao Barroso "by consensus."

"I know he will lead the European Commission with strength, vigor and vision," Ahern said.

Duraao Barroso still faces confirmation hearings at the European Parliament in July, which seem to be formality, as he shares the same center-right political stance

as the EU assembly's largest political group, the European People's Party.

Duraao Barroso only needs a simple majority in the 732-member chamber to be approved. There was praise all around Tuesday for the 48-year-old Portuguese leader.

French President Jacques Chirac called him a "man of dialogue, who can, I think, guarantee the success of this difficult mission."

British Prime Minister Tony Blair hailed him as "someone who shows a strong belief in economic reform and social justice."

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said Durao Barroso was not his first choice, but stressed that if the European Parliament endorses him next month, "we will support him."

Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero said Durao Barroso "will unite Europeans even more in the years ahead."

## Stars and Stripes Messages of Support

★ WE ARE SO VERY PROUD OF YOU!! There is not a day that goes by that my husband and I don't pray for you all. We are behind you with our thoughts and prayers and hope that soon you will be home safe and sound to honor and thank you the way that you deserve for serving your country so well. Know that we love you and are behind you all the way. THANK YOU, you have our highest respect and admiration,

may God Bless and keep you safe. Emma and Raul V., Lake Worth, Florida

★ My name is Susan and I'm from Corbin Ky. I just want to say God Bless all our troops overseas. I thank you for fighting for mine and my children's freedom. I pray every night that God will bring everyone home safely. Thank You.

## Survey: Small arms in Iraq may trouble Mideast for years

BY SAM CAGE  
The Associated Press

GENEVA — The huge numbers of small arms left behind by Iraq's armed forces after the fall of Saddam Hussein could cause instability in the Middle East for many years, according to a study published Wednesday.

"Millions of firearms suddenly flooded a chaotic social landscape," the 335-page Small Arms Survey said. "The collapse precipitated what almost certainly was one of the largest and fastest transfers of small arms ever."

The number of murders involving firearms in Baghdad rose dramatically, the report said, and the violence "became a major barrier to the restoration of legitimate authority."

"The consequences of the great Iraqi small arms abandonment may endanger stability in much of the Middle East for years to come," it added.

The Iraqi people currently possess an estimated 7 million to 8 million firearms, although the actual number could be much higher, the study said, adding that it still has fewer firearms per person than countries such as Finland.

"The concern here... is we do not know what proportion of these weapons are military style," Keith Krause, the program director for the survey, told reporters. "Iraq now poses a regional proliferation risk."

The survey of global small

arms is produced annually by a team of researchers coordinated at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva and financed by a dozen Western governments. It is used partly to track progress on a U.N. program to combat small-arms trafficking that was adopted at a 2001 conference on the illegal trade in light weaponry.

At least 200,000 non-war-related firearms deaths occur each year, the vast majority of them homicides. Almost half the killings are in Latin America and the Caribbean, which have gradually developed even more severe firearm problems than Iraq.

Latin America does not have a particularly high number of small arms, but far more people are killed per gun than in other regions of the world.

Colombia has the world's highest gun homicide rate, with 50 murders per 100,000 people, followed by South Africa with 30. By comparison, the United States has 3.5 killings per 100,000 people, and Germany has 0.2.

Countries following Colombia in the Latin America and Caribbean region were Venezuela with 21 and Jamaica with 17.

"Latin America stands out as the only part of the world where so many such countries are packed together in a single region," the report said. But "several other regions are home to one or more countries affected by exceptional gun problems, such as South Africa and Albania."

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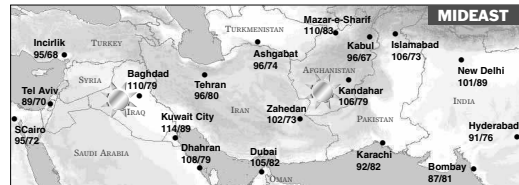
KEY: Sunny, Partly cloudy, Mostly cloudy, Cloudy, Showers, Tornado, Rain, Rain/snow, Snow, Cold front, Warm front, Trough, Occluded front, Stationary front, Low, High

**AFRICA**

	H/L	Clouds	H/L
Cape Town	62/43		80/75
Dakar	82/77		80/75
Freeport	83/64		88/67
Khartoum	81/66		88/72

**THE WORLD**

	H/L	Clouds	H/L
Amsterdam	69/56		75/55
Batavia	109/88		74/53
Bombay	84/75		79/69
Buenos Aires	84/75		79/69
Buenos Aires	84/75		79/69
Buenos Aires	84/75		79/69
Buenos Aires	84/75		79/69
Buenos Aires	84/75		79/69
Buenos Aires	84/75		79/69
Buenos Aires	84/75		79/69



**TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK**

City	H/L	Clouds	City	H/L	Clouds	City	H/L	Clouds	City	H/L	Clouds
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Cleveland	83	62	PC	Hamburg	85	66	PC
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Colorado Springs	81	64	PC	Harbin	85	62	PC
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Heilbronn	85	62	PC
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Houston	91	76	City
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Houston	91	76	City
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Houston	91	76	City
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Houston	91	76	City
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Houston	91	76	City
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Houston	91	76	City
Albany, N.Y.	81	71	PC	Columbus, S.C.	81	64	PC	Houston	91	76	City

**EUROPEAN FORECAST**

**Benelex:** Mostly cloudy with rain-showers. Highs in the upper 60s to lower 70s. Lows in the upper 50s.

**Britain, Ireland:** Mostly cloudy with rain-showers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 60s to lower 70s. Lows in the upper 50s.

**Croatia and Bosnia:** Partly cloudy with overnight dense fog. Highs in the lower 80s. Lows in the upper 50s.

**France:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the 70s. Lows in the 60s.

**Northern Germany:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rain-showers. Highs in the 70s. Lows in the 60s.

**Southern Germany:** Mostly cloudy with isolated rain-showers. Highs in the 70s. Lows in the 60s.

**Hungary:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the lower 80s. Lows in the mid 50s.

**Northern Italy:** Mostly cloudy with rain-showers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s. Lows in the 60s.

**Southern Italy:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 80s. Lows in the lower 70s.

**Kosovo:** Partly to mostly cloudy with overnight fog. Highs in the lower 80s. Lows in the upper 50s.

**Norway:** Mostly cloudy with rain-showers. Highs in the mid 60s. Lows in the lower 50s.

**Portugal, Spain:** Sunny. Highs in the upper 80s to upper 90s. Lows in the mid 60s to lower 70s.

**Turkey:** Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s in central Turkey and in the upper 80s to lower 90s elsewhere. Lows in the 40s in central Turkey and in the 50s elsewhere.

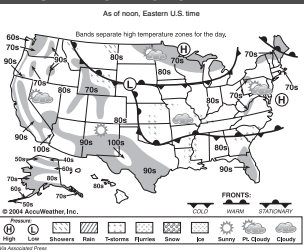
For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAF Operational Weather Squadron home page at <https://ows.sembach.af.mil>

**SUN & MOON**

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (London)	0521	0521
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	0521	0521
Sunset (London)	2123	2123
Sunset (Frankfurt)	2138	2138

Full moon 07/09, Last qtr 07/09, New moon 07/17, First qtr 07/25

**THE UNITED STATES TODAY**



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**STARS AND STRIPES**





## OPINION

## Politics notwithstanding, root for handover

The Philadelphia Inquirer

**P**ray that it helps.  
Pray that it holds.  
Pray that Monday, June 28, when limited sovereignty returned to bloodied Iraq, will be remembered a year from now, a generation from now, as a great day for Iraq, and a good one for the United States.

If not — if June 28 becomes only a blip in a careening tale of civil strife and terrorist violence — then the Bush administration's flawed policy in Iraq will have been a failed policy. In that unhappy case, Americans will inhabit a much riskier world.

But the flaws have not yet made utter failure inevitable. A stable Iraq could still emerge, if just barely, from the present chaos. If that occurs, the world may yet come to honor the earnest, heroic efforts of many Americans to bring that result about.

So view this transition as a new phase of American commitment in Iraq, not as an abrupt end to a bad dream. The passions of a presidential campaign should not obscure the United States' ethical and pragmatic imperative to keep doing what it can to promote stability in Iraq.

The campaign poses a moral dilemma for those who would like to see the Bush team receive voters' censure for its myriad deceptions and blunders.

Yes, the worse it gets in Iraq, the more the president's poll number will dip. But the worse things go in Iraq, the more real people suffer real hurt and anguish, the more America's moral standing sinks, and the

more its exposure as a terror target grows. President Bush will face judgment on Election Day, but voters should try to cord off that event from judgments of what's best for Iraq policy.

Monday's gambit of turning over sovereignty two days ahead of schedule was clever and useful.

It probably won't forestall all the violence that insurgents planned for the occasion. But the eagerness of Prime Minister Iyad Allawi to speed the turnover sends a signal to weary Iraqis that the interim government is ready and confident. The signal may be as much illusion as substance but, in politics, illusion matters.

That's why the Bush administration orchestrated the timing so that the president could announce it at a NATO summit in nervous Turkey.

That's why L. Paul Bremer, head of the occupation, hightailed it out of Baghdad. His rapid departure implied that the sovereignty of Allawi's regime is less trampled and dependent on the United States than it actually is.

Before he got out of Dodge, Bremer showed the limits of the sovereignty by executing a last-minute burst of rulemaking. Bremer enacted statutes, meant to be binding, about everything from election law to maximum tax rates to the honking of car horns.

Those laws illustrate one of the vexing ironies of this liberation-concupiscence: We want Iraqis to enjoy the fruits of democracy and self-determination, but only in



ways we deem good for them (and us).

Another irony: Allawi & Co. enter a situation so perilous that many Iraqis yearn more for authoritarian firmness than for democratic dialogue.

Pray that Allawi can somehow find the right ways to exploit U.S. military clout

and money to help him stabilize Iraq, while sending his people and the rest of the Islamic world a message that Iraqis are back in charge.

The alternative, a bloody civil war that much of the world would blame on the United States, is awful to contemplate.

## When tide lifts all, don't worry about size of boat

BY RICHARD A. EPSTEIN

**I**t should come as no surprise that human beings are often more concerned with where they stand relative to others than where they are when they stand overall. It's a human characteristic to judge ourselves by our neighbors, by our classmates and colleagues, by the living standards of other cities and other countries.

To some degree, this is reasonable. No worker wants to be paid less than his or her co-worker for the same work. And there's much to be learned about our condition by seeing how others live, both in Beverly Hills and Botswana.

But in the long run, does it really make sense to judge our lives against the lives of others? Should we mark our progress relative to those around us or in terms of absolute progress? Consider the following example: One representative English study of infant mortality, the Acheson Report, reported deaths per 1,000 in Yorkshire in 1900 that ranged from 247 for the poorest working-class groups to 94 for the wealthiest. That's a ratio of about 2.5 to 1.

Today, a century later, the Acheson Report finds that the ratio remains 2.5 to 1. That's clearly outrageous. Although 100 years has passed, the poor still die in infancy at a rate more than double that of the rich.

But now consider that although the ratio remains the same, the top figure had declined for the low-income group from 247 deaths per 1,000 in 1900 to 8.1 per 1,000 in 2000. And from 94 deaths per 1,000 to 3.1 per 1,000 for the wealthy. In other words, for both groups, the rate is now about 30 times lower than it was.

My question is this: Why worry about the persistence of inequality in the face of such massive improvement across the entire spectrum? And why worry when, in absolute terms, the improvements are far greater for the least-fortunate classes than for the rich?

Here's another example: The single best

measure of human progress in the United States during the last century has been an improvement in longevity. Life expectancy moved up about 30 years between 1900 and 2000, from about 47 in 1900 to 65 in 1950, to 77 years today — a greater increase (from a higher base no less) than took place in the entire previous 3,000 years. With that improvement came massive advances in general fitness; today, the average person at the age of 60 is about as healthy as a person at 45 only half a century ago.

These benefits are not confined to the United States. If anything, even more dramatic advances have taken place along the globe.

Worldwide life expectancy has increased from 30 in 1900 to 46 in 1950 to about 66 today.

Stunning progress. Of course, if you look at longevity today in relative terms, the picture is a little more depressing. Terrible inequalities still exist — between racial groups,

between income groups, from the First World to the Third World. But it's also true that people live a long longer now than they did a century ago.

In the end, which would you prefer: Would you rather die at age 50, as long as everyone else does too, or would you rather live to 70, even if everyone else lives to 80? At this point, the theory of relative preferences presumes that rational individuals are happy to cut off their noses to spite their faces. To accept this definition of human progress treats equality not as a test of opportunities for advancement, but rather a giant vise that holds everyone back until the least-advanced gain equal life chances. Would anyone really prefer overall infant mortality rates of 94 (the best cohort in 1900) or the current streak of 8.1 to 3.1 that we have today?

The same is true, by the way, for income inequality. Yes, over time the rich get richer. But it does not necessarily follow that the poor get poorer. In fact, over the long run,

the rich have gotten richer and the poor have gotten richer as well. Thus it makes no sense to quake with each revelation that the rich have increased their share of wealth. Rather ask the question whether this comes at the expense of others, or whether it is part of a rising tide that raises all ships.

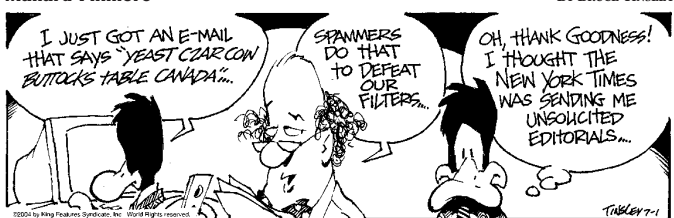
The threat of skepticism to human progress must be rejected. In its place I adopt what might be termed a "non-envy principle": If there are two states of the world, such that everyone in state A is better (or at least as well) off as everyone in state B, then choose world A, even if the resulting inequalities leave some people envious.

Don't groan because Bill Gates is richer than the average Microsoft employee — instead, celebrate the productive processes that continue to bring substantial benefits to all of us across the board.

Richard A. Epstein, professor of law at the University of Chicago and a fellow at the Hoover Institution, is the author of "Skepticism and Freedom: A Modern Case for Classical Liberalism." This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

## Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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## FACES 'N' PLACES



BY LUAINÉ LEE

Knight Ridder/Tribune

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — Samantha Mathis should have known better, but she became an actress anyway. Mathis, who has costarred in films like "Pump Up the Volume," "The American President" and "American Psycho," is both the daughter and the granddaughter of actresses.

Still, she says she knew she wanted to perform when she was 12.

"My parents divorced when I was young, so I spent a lot of time with my mom on location, on sets, in trailers, at acting classes. My life has been spent in the industry. I did a play when I was 12 and it was really this sort of transcendent experience. And then I remember spending that summer between grade school and junior high school, there was a little-known cable station called HBO that was running 'Scarface' and 'Dog Day Afternoon' back-to-back all summer," she says.

"And I just was SO blown away by how different Al Pacino was in those two films, it really impressed me. And then there were a slew of Meryl Streep films that started coming on, and I just became entranced with the craft of acting and announced to my mother at 12 that that's what I wanted to do."

Of course, her mother, Bibi Besch ("Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan"), told her no. "In her brilliance, she said, 'Go study, take a class,' and then sort of made me jump through a series of hoops."

At 34, Mathis has mastered the hoop-jumping, and her performance in TNT's spooky "Salem's Lot," which recently aired in the States, proves it. As a waitress who joins neighbors (Rob Lowe, Andre Braugher and Donald Sutherland) in trying to uncover a murky evil that is metastasizing in a bucolic town, she adds just the right touch of innocence.

"I'd never done this genre before; never done a thriller or horror, so I was excited to take a crack at a different style of acting and filmmaking — to be in a Stephen King adaptation — which I hadn't done."

There are certain things that every actor wants to do. Every actor wants to do a Woody Allen movie and to do a Stephen King as well. It's an honor to be part of this legacy," she says, seated on an ivory-colored chenille love-seat in a hotel room here.

**"My life has been spent in the industry."**

# Mathis on growing up in Hollywood

**"I'd never done this genre before; never done a thriller or horror ..."**

When Mathis was 16 her mother rented, agreeing to permit her daughter to try her hand at acting. "At that point a lot of my friends in the business knew I was interested and said to me, 'Let me know when you want to start working and I'll bring you in. I'll be your agent in a trial basis and see how it goes.' And I booked a job in three months. I did a pilot for a TV series."

She played an Amish girl in the family drama "Aaron's Way," which starred Merlin Olsen and suffered a short shelf-life. When she was 19 she costarred in the film "Pump Up the Volume," a solid hit which earned her an envious reputation and coupled her romantically with costar Christian Slater.

Though she has been linked with actors Noah Wyle, River Phoenix and Slater, she says she's having second thoughts. "It's hard to date, and to date in L.A. I don't really identify it with being harder as a famous person. And maybe I'm still naive in that way, but it's just hard to meet people," she shrugs.

"And I think in this town it's just hard to meet a guy who wants to settle down. That's my experience. People come here to seek fame and fortune and have very sexy lives. I'm sure there are great guys out there and I've dated a few, but I find it hard to meet people here in general that are interested in getting married and building a life and not just in being wildly successful in their career, not being the head of a studio or doing a 23-year-old and have a fast car."

Mathis' mother died of cancer eight years ago. Losing her mom transformed her, she says. "It made me really stop and take stock of my life. It changed my course. I've always been someone who was seeking now I'm even more on that path, seeking and trying to understand whatever issues were there and heal wounds from childhood, and I think it made me take more notice of my health."

"Unfortunately, there are gifts you get in the loss of someone in your life that you say you'll hold onto, and they sort of come and go," she says.

"And I think it showed me the non-linearity of life. Maybe from watching so many movies and growing up with so many TV shows and films and having my mind saturated with them I like to think of life sort of working in neat ways. And I remember going through the mourning for my mother and thinking, 'OK, I'll get through that first year through the first birthday, Christmas, Mother's Day and I'll get better.' And it just doesn't work that way."



ASACA PRESS/KRT

## Techno and punk rule Mermaid Parade

Moby, Dick and a Lunachick celebrated a rite of summer in Brooklyn's annual Mermaid Parade, joining about 1,500 people who marched along the Coney Island boardwalk, many in nautical dress.

Techno artist Moby and punk rocker Theo Kogan of the Lunachicks were crowned as King Neptune and Queen Mermaid at the 22nd annual event on Saturday. Moby thanked the cheering crowd, joking that he was "enjoying the fruits of my power."

The parade is the creation of the tattooed and goateed Dick Zigun, who marched beneath a top hat.

Mermaids were joined by walking cans of tuna, and several participants — including one in a gorilla costume — rode in a hearse. Sean Allison, 35, sat on the hood.

"It was a howl," Allison said. "It was awesome."



Moby

## Lang and Shepard sell estate

Oscar winner Jessica Lange and her companion, the playwright Sam Shepard, are selling the estate where they have lived for nine years.

The 12-room Victorian mansion, which sits on a 2½-acre site overlooking the St. Croix River in Stillwater, Minn., has been on the market since mid-May with an asking price of \$3.3 million.

"It's a remarkable property in every respect," said real estate agent Sharon O'Flannigan, who is handling the sale.

In 1995, Lange and Shepard paid \$415,000 for the house — a former bed-and-breakfast built in 1892 atop one of Stillwater's highest points — and \$125,000 for adjoining property.



Lange

## Texan crowned Junior Miss America

Texan Shannon Essenpreis was crowned America's Junior Miss after belting out a Broadway showtune and soaring through interviews with her "bubbly" personality in Mobile, Ala.

Essenpreis was crowned Saturday night, television viewers won't see it until July as producers switch to a "reality TV" format. PAX Network camera crews followed the 50 contestants for two weeks leading up to Saturday's contest.

Essenpreis was among five finalists who were given on-the-spot questions tailored to their individual interests. She was asked how she would use the enthusiasm she's displayed as her school's mascot into her planned career as a broadcast journalist.

Essenpreis won a \$50,000 scholarship.



Essenpreis

## Brick heats up firefighting exhibit

Survivor winner Amber Brick added a little heat to a local museum's firefighting exhibit.

Brick, who got \$1 million and a fiancée while winning "Survivor All-Stars," donated bikinis she wore on the show for the display — and helped draw 200 people Saturday to an exhibit celebrating firefighters in their western hometown of Beaver, Pa.

"Those guys [firefighters] are the real survivors," Brick said. "They're out in the community every day and they deserve a lot of credit for the work they do."

Officials with the Beaver Area Historical Museum did their best to find a link between the 25-year-old reality-show contestant and the 170-year history of firefighting in the area.

"There are people making history right now in 2004, and Amber is certainly one of those," explained Mark Minor, a museum board member.

Brick's display includes bikinis she wore on "Survivor Australian Outback" and "Survivor All-Stars," a boomerang from an immunity challenge, a leather canteen and a blindfold.

Photos and stories from The Associated Press



Brick

# Horoscope

As we build toward the full moon tomorrow, it gets more difficult to keep calm, especially where love is concerned. Capricorn lunar energy takes the edge off, though! Romance seems something to rush into with open arms. You'll come out of this just fine as long as it doesn't include running off to Vegas to get married or spending big bucks.

## TODAY'S BUCKS

**(July 1)** It's impressive how well you're able to provide for yourself and loved ones this year! A financial breakthrough this month starts in your mind — once you make it true there, the whole thing falls into place systematically. In August, you're passionate, attracting new partners in business and pleasure.

Aries and Pisces are terrific romantic prospects.

## ARIES (March 21-April 19)

Listening to folks around the water cooler is dangerous. Some people love to scare others by talking about all that has gone wrong and could go wrong in the world. You're highly susceptible, so run away.

## TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Be gentle, and refuse to let heavy thoughts ruin your life. It's a good time to get out and see a comedy, spend time with funny friends, or simply resolve to see the humor around you. Team up for an expedition into uncharted territory.

## GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

The most challenging way to think today is also the one that will bring you the most success, and that's long term. You're an ace at coming up with the thing that's the most fun in the moment. But fun isn't always good for you.

## CANCER (June 22-July 22)

You may feel like taking a break from the maddening crowd with a solitary day at home with your thoughts. You have the energy and stamina needed to tackle any obstacle, even those complications conjured in your mind.

## LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

Any-thing goes — anything but what

you're supposed to be doing, that is. Get down to work anyhow. Your job de-vire helps you leave your mark. People will exclaim, "What style! What charisma!" and you could even get a date out of it.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You're introspective. It's difficult to see how your situation is really going to change much. The tide comes in, the tide goes out, just as it has since the beginning of the Earth. Your time alone is precious. Guard it.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

This is a day of second chances for you! If you regret exchanging harsh words with a friend, you can take them back. If you wish you hadn't signed that contract, you could get a chance at renegotiation.

## SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Be careful not to let intense emotions get the better of you. You receive the deep satisfaction of delayed gratification. Search for the inspiration you will need to attain the goals you've set for yourself.

## SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You're probably driving yourself so hard because it's easier than trying to get others to do things. Leave the drama for people who get energy from it. You're really drained by unnecessary theatrics.

## CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Top-notch progress can be made because you've streamlined your approach. Your passion is teamed with efficiency. Any steps you take to make conditions more aesthetically gratifying are especially lucky.

## AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You're bright and filled with ideas, so be sure and write them down, lest they be forgotten. This afternoon, energy will dip. Let someone else carry the ball while you recharge your emotional and physical battery.

## PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

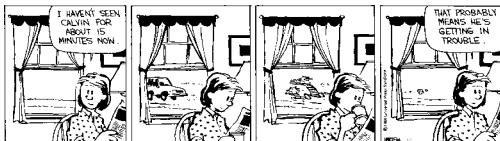
Life seems like one yearning after the next, always just out of reach, but this is what keeps you moving and growing. Keep learning about the amazingly unique individual you are! Self-discovery leads to lasting love.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillion



## Calvin and Hobbes



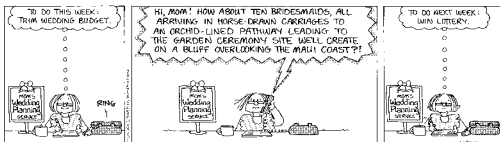
## Jump Start



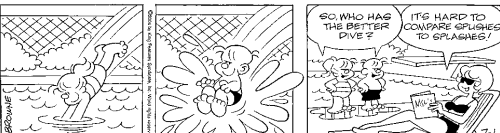
## Zits



## Cathy



## Hi and Lois



## Beetle Bailey



## Red and Rover



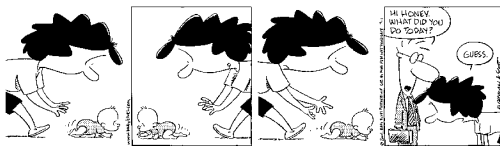
Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



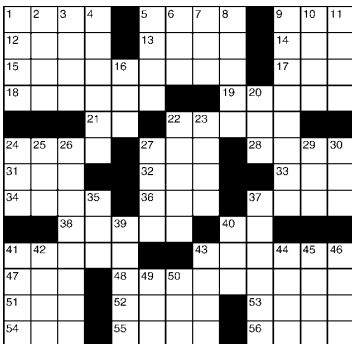
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Moist  
5 Branch  
9 Figure head? (Abbr.)  
12 Curved molding  
13 Painter's calculation  
14 Filch  
15 Party-line problem  
17 Inseparable  
18 Chopping spree?  
19 Supporter of the arts  
21 Young on the mound  
22 Mile units  
24 St. Louis landmark  
27 Mail de —  
28 With competence  
31 Postal Creed word  
32 Violinist Kafavian  
33 Swabbie's agreement

## Down

- 11 Otis Redding's perch  
21 Taj Mahal city  
3 "Love — Leave Me!"  
4 Seder time  
5 Making everybody wait  
6 George's brother  
7 HUD Secretary  
8 He's rolling in dough  
9 Hurdle part  
10 Corn recipe  
11 Slain shepherd  
12 Dirty place  
20 Computer language  
22 Bumpy body  
23 Saharan  
24 Reply (Abbr.)  
25 Deterioration  
26 Medieval weapon  
27 Timbuktu's country  
29 Caustic solution  
30 Still  
35 Drenched  
37 Random acts of kindness  
39 Bushel quarters  
40 "— Winterbourne"  
41 Implore  
42 Staffer  
43 "When the Frost — the Punkin"  
44 Terrible guy  
45 Pianist Peter  
46 Expanded  
49 Cong. person  
50 — budget

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 7-1

## CRYPTOQUIP

Y WZO'E TOZQ UZQ EZ  
CPTB PMXPLPIFM. CPRJB  
MZCBJZWR MUZFAW IYKB

CB MBKBLPA EYXM.  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A PERSON COULD SAY THAT THE MENU IN A RESTAURANT PROVIDES MANY VITTE STATISTICS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals S



# Older citizens not yet 'doddering'

**Dear Abby:** After reading your comment to "Young and in Love in Toronto" — the 26-year-old woman who's in love with a 50-year-old man — I was so hot under the collar that I had to take my dog for a two-mile walk, then cut and split a cord of wood in order to cool off. You see, I'll be 84 this year, so according to you, I am "doddering." I walk 18 holes of golf, square dance every Friday and alternate Saturday nights, am active in the community and am part-time editor of our local seniors newsletter. And this doddering octogenarian is being married this month to my square dance partner of the last four years, who is 18 years younger.

Dear Abby



idea there was so many active seniors until I used the "doddering" I deserved 80 lashes with a wet noodle, and I got it. Read on:

**Dear Abby:** My father is running, not "doddering," through his later years. I wouldn't be surprised if he lives to be 100. At 80, dear old Dad went to Mongolia, slept in tents and rode camels. He still works a full-time job, travels around the country and writes articles. He fishes, and walks an 18-hole golf course once a week. His cholesterol is only 135, and his cardiologist says his heart is as healthy as it can be for an 82-year-old. Please re-think your advice to "Young and in Love." You never know — that man might outlive her!

— Cathy U., Chocktaw, Okla.

**Dear Cathy U.:** You're right. No one has a contract with God.

I hope you get a ton of mail from other doddering octogenarians.

— Bob F., Claremont, Calif.

**Dear Bob:** Did I ever. I had no

## Mom out to revive daughter's marriage

**Dear Annie:** I have been separated from my husband, "Lester," for three months. We've been married nearly four years, but we both have come to the conclusion that it would be best if we divorced. There are no children involved. Lester and I still talk to each other and are on very good terms. Because of this, my mother keeps trying to get us back together. I've explained why a divorce is the right decision, but it's almost as if Mom would rather see me married and miserable than divorced and happy.

Frankly, I think she is worried about what other people will think of her if her daughter is divorced.

I don't want to stop speaking to my mother, but I refuse to live my life for her. Any suggestions?

— Happiness Lost

**Dear Happiness Lost:** Since you and Lester presumably will be divorced soon, there's no point getting worked up over your

Annie's Mailbox



mother's attitude. It isn't necessary for her to agree with you. Simply say, "I realize we don't see eye-to-eye on this. Mother, so we won't discuss it further." Then change the subject or walk away. Once the divorce is final, hopefully your mother will stop nagging you to get back together, because by then, it will be too late for her to change what people think.

**Dear Annie:** Several years ago, my brother, sister and I lost both our parents within six months of each other. My brother was supposed to be executor of the estate, but since he lives in Canada, a judge named me co-executor (Mom and Dad lived in the United States and so do I).

Most of the work fell on my shoulders, and my brother did as little as possible. The final settlement caused a lot of hard feelings. My sister and I remain close, but my brother has not

spoken to me since.

This breaks my heart. I have tried to contact him, but he will not take my calls or answer my e-mails. I love my brother and miss him a lot. How can I make this better?

— Younger Sister

**Dear Sister:** We're assuming you received more money than your brother, most likely from the work you did on the estate as co-executor. If that's the case, the only way your brother will "forgive" you is if you make it up to him financially, unfair though that may be. It is entirely up to you to decide if it's worth it.

If that is not the case, and your brother simply is miffed that you usurped his role as sole executor, there is little you can do. We suggest you ask your sister to be an intermediary to let your brother know how much you miss him, and hope for the best.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

Creators Syndicate

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argison The 800/950 nos. have been DISCONTINUED.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

REPIK

CAMPH

LICKEF

CISNEC

Answers: A " " " "

Yesterday's Jumbles: SNORT CLEFT MOROSE NIPPLE

Answer: What the fortune-teller turned into on vacation — A SITE "SEER"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argison The 800/950 nos. have been DISCONTINUED.

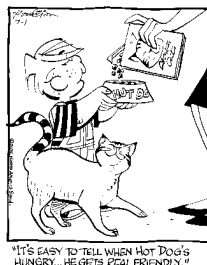


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

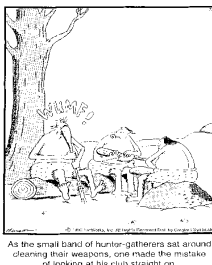
## Family Circus



Domis the Menace



The Far Side



Non Sequitur





# McGrady for Francis gets finalized

BY JOEL ANDERSON  
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Forget about Hollywood. The NBA's most intriguing duo now belongs to Houston.

League scoring leader Tracy McGrady will team with 7-foot-5 center Yao Ming next season after being traded to the Rockets on Tuesday in a blockbuster trade that sends Steve Francis to the Orlando Magic.

The trade, in the works for nearly two weeks, also sent forward Juwan Howard and guards Tyrone Lee and Reece Gaines to the Rockets.

The Magic get guard Cuttino Mobley and forward Kelvin Cato in return.

"I just knew it was going to take time," McGrady told ESPN on Tuesday night. "I'm happy and it's time to move on."

The trade was finalized after Francis met with Magic General Manager John Weisbord and other team officials in Orlando on Tuesday. The Rockets were to introduce McGrady, Howard, Lee and Gaines on Wednesday.

McGrady, a two-time scoring champion, now joins Yao to form an All-Star combination that could be as dominant as the Los Angeles Lakers' championship twosome of Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant.

"I sure hope so," McGrady said. "I can't predict the future, but it definitely would be nice. The ultimate goal is to win a championship for the Houston Rockets."

And with the Lakers splintering apart since losing in this year's NBA Finals, Houston immediately is like a serious contender in the Western Conference.



New Magic players, from left, Steve Francis, Kelvin Cato, and Cuttino Mobley hold up their new jerseys.

The Rockets' union figures to be much more harmonious than the one in Los Angeles.

McGrady signed with the Magic in 2000, thinking he and Grant Hill could push an up-and-coming squad over the top. But Hill's injured left ankle limited him to 37 games in four seasons, and McGrady's lead grew heavier each year.

Tired of carrying a mediocre franchise, McGrady vowed to exercise the opt-out clause in his contract that was to go into effect at the end of next season. Orlando wasn't going to let him leave without compensation — like O'Neal did eight years ago.

McGrady, 25, becomes the fourth defending champion in NBA history to be dealt

away, and the first since the Buffalo Braves sent Bob McAdoo to the New York Knicks in 1976.

Francis, a three-time All-Star, averaged 16.6 points, 5.5 rebounds and 6.2 assists last season. Oscar Robertson, Magic Johnson and Hill as the only players to average at least 15 points, five rebounds and five assists in each of their first five NBA seasons.

Francis, Mobley and Yao led the Rockets to the playoffs last season for the first time in five years. Houston lost to Los Angeles in the first round.

But Francis, who flourished in an up-tempo offense for the previous four years, was put on the trading block after posting the most offensive numbers of his career in new coach Jeff Van Gundy's slower-paced scheme.

When the deal was first discussed, Francis balked at joining the rebuilding Magic. But Francis' agent, Jeff Fried, said a talk between the point guard and Weisbord after Thursday's draft helped alleviate some of Francis' concerns about joining the Magic.

"I think he's very excited about this new beginning. I think he's going to take a talk that wants to have a sizzling new beginning," Fried told The Associated Press early Wednesday. "The only disappointment was that maybe he should have been the Atlanta part of the process. From the Houston era!"

Mobley, one of Francis' best friends, comes to Orlando after averaging 17.1 points and four rebounds a game in six seasons with the Rockets.

## Network saluting athletes who served

Stars and Stripes

College Sports Television will pay tribute to the U.S. armed forces with "From Ballfields to Battlefields," a documentary about student-athletes who have served their country during times of war that will premiere on American Forces Network on Saturday, July 3.

The documentary will air in Europe at 7:30 a.m. Saturday on AFN-Sports and 8:30 p.m. Saturday on AFN-Pacific.

"From Ballfields to Battlefields" is part of "Sports and Stripes: CSTV's Salute to the Armed Forces," the network's July 2-4 tribute to servicemembers comprising athletic events featuring service academies, features on athletes from Army, Navy and Air Force, and greetings from servicemembers deployed to Iraq to their families and friends. Much of the programming will be available on AFN.

"From Ballfields to Battlefields" is a TV special honoring the legacy of [former NFL player killed in Iraq] Pat Tillman and other student-athletes who have put their lives on the line," CSTV President and CEO Brian Bedol said in a news release. "The attributes that make these college athletes successful on the ball field — teamwork, discipline and loyalty — are what make them exemplary of the battle field."

Among those profiled:

■ Nile Kinnick, the 1939 Heisman Trophy-winning football player from Iowa who joined the Naval Air Corps reserve after college and was killed in 1943 when his fighter plane crashed during a World War II training flight.

■ Matt Sheffie, the University of Vermont basketball player who enlisted in the Army a week after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant and after graduating from college and is expected to be deployed in Afghanistan later this year.

■ Bob Johnson and Cortez Watson. Johnson, who has more than 300 wins as the men's basketball coach at Emory and Henry College in Virginia, was a Ranger platoon leader with the 101st Airborne in Vietnam. Watson, who plays for Johnson, enrolled in the National Guard college and was sent to Iraq in 2003. He has since returned to the States and will resume his college athletic career in fall and spring.

■ Tillman, the former Arizona State football star and Arizona Cardinals safety who was killed in April while serving in Afghanistan.

■ Hobey Baker, the captain of his Princeton hockey and football teams and World War I hero who was killed in an airplane crash in 1918, just before his scheduled return from Europe.

For more information:  
CSTV: www.collegesports.com  
AFN: www.afn.net

## Parasite apparently behind Giambi's slump

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ailing Yankees first baseman Jason Giambi was diagnosed with parasites and out of the starting lineup Tuesday night when New York played Boston.

When asked specifically what the doctor told him, Giambi said he didn't remember.

"I don't have a PhD and I'm not world renowned," Giambi said.

The former AL MVP said he'd been feeling exhausted for about three weeks. He began taking a new set of antibiotics Tuesday and said a doctor told him he should feel better within a couple of days.

"There should be no reason for being this exhausted," Giambi said. "I'm 33, not 50."

Giambi has one hit in his past 14 at-bats and is 1-for-45 but he hasn't homered since hitting his 11th of the season on June 20, and his average has dropped from .271 on June 7 to .237.

Most sort of explains it to be more than a slump," Yankees manager Joe Torre said.

**Reports: Clemons to interview at Ohio St.**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Los Angeles Lakers assistant Jim Clemons is in the mix of candidates Ohio State is considering for its men's basketball coach, according to published and broadcast reports.

Meanwhile, Rice coach Willis Wilson interviewed with Ohio State athletic director Andy Geiger on Tuesday in Dallas, the Houston Chronicle reported in its Wednesday editions. Wilson characterized Tuesday's meeting as "an opportunity for everyone to sit down and get to know each other," the newspaper said.

### Sports briefs

Clemons, 54, is a 1971 graduate of Ohio State and he has been an assistant at Ohio State and Furman and coached at Youngstown State.

He left Youngstown State after two years and a 12-24 record to return to Chicago in the NBA as an assistant. He coached Dallas to 28-70 record in 1996 and 97.

Clemons is one of several candidates whose name has been mentioned in connection with the job.

WCPO-TV in Cincinnati reported on Monday that Ohio State has asked Xavier for permission to interview coach Thad Matta, who led the Musketeers to the NCAA regional finals this year where they lost to Duke. Ohio State and Xavier had no comment on Tuesday.

Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings also is being considered for the job.

**Hurricanes sign O'Neill to one-year deal**

RALEIGH, N.C. — Right wing Jeff O'Neill and the Carolina Hurricanes agreed to terms Tuesday on a one-year contract that will keep the former All-Star with the franchise that drafted him 10 years ago.

O'Neill had more than 60 points and led the team in goals each season from 1999-2003. But he scored just 14 goals in 2003-04 before season-ending surgery in March to repair a tear in his right shoulder.

**Olympic hopeful Yim ruptures Achilles'**

INDIANAPOLIS — Olympic hopeful gymnast Tabitha Yim ruptured her right Achilles' tendon during training Tuesday, ending her chances of making the Athens Games.

Yim, 18, will have surgery Wednesday, but recovery is expected to take several months. She finished fourth at the Olympic trials that ended Sunday and was one of 15 gymnasts invited to a selection camp next month to compete for the four remaining spots on the U.S. squad.

**Rockies to call up Stark**

DENVER — The Colorado Rockies shook up their rotation Tuesday, designating right-hander Kevin Jarvis for assignment and shifting Jeff Fassero to the bullpen. The moves clear space for right-hander Denny Stark, superb since being sent to Triple-A Colorado Springs in April. He's expected to be called up Thursday to take Fassero's spot in the rotation against Milwaukee. Stark started the season with the Rockies despite struggling in spring training, but was designated for assignment April 17 after running up a 16.20 ERA in two starts.

**Keams needs surgery, out 4-6 weeks**

CINCINNATI — Austin Keams needs surgery to remove scar tissue from his aching right thumb, sidelining the Cincinnati Reds outfielder for another four to six weeks. Keams developed a sore spot on the inside of the thumb last month, eventually forcing him onto the 15-day disabled list for the second time this season. The soreness hasn't gone away, and doctors decided Tuesday that surgery is the only option left.

batter in the 8th.  
A-51,113 (56,000).



# Boston battered

## Yankees rout reeling Red Sox; open 6½-game lead in AL East

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Determined to prove their 1-6 record in April against the Boston Red Sox was a fluke, the New York Yankees roused up their bitter rival.

"After the way they manhandled us the first time, you're wondering how you

stack up," New York manager Joe Torre said. On Tuesday, the Yankees

led no doubt. Gary Sheffield hit a three-run homer, Tony Clark hit a drive into the center-field bleachers, and New York took advantage of three Boston errors to rout the visiting Red Sox 11-3 in front of 55,251 that included Vice President Dick Cheney.

Roles were reversed in the Bronx on Tuesday as the first-place Yankees opened a 6½-game lead over the Red Sox in the AL East. In April, they fell 4½ back of Boston after being swept in a three-game series.

"We were jacked up for this one," Sheffield said. Sheffield and Clark homered off Derek Lowe after the Red Sox committed errors, raising their total to a major league-leading 58. Shortstop Nomar Garciaparra, who missed the April games with Achilles' tendinitis, allowed Derek Jeter's two-out grounder in the fourth to kick off the heel of his glove for his second error of the game. Sheffield followed with a three-run homer.

After second baseman Pokey Reese bobbled Jorge Posada's



Gary Sheffield, above, hit a three-run homer with two outs in the fifth inning to give the Yankees a 7-2 lead immediately after Boston shortstop Nomar Garciaparra booted a ground ball.

fifth-inning grounder, failing to help turn what would have been an inning-ending double play, Clark hit a two-run homer.

"There were just too many mistakes out there," Boston outfielder Johnny Damon said.

Damon homered off Javier Vazquez on the second pitch of the game and added another in the third to give Boston a 2-1 lead. But the Yankees took a 4-2 lead in the bottom half when Kenny Lofton reached on an error and scored on a sacrifice fly, and Hideki Matsui hit a tiebreaking two-run single. It came one pitch after Jeter and Alex Rodriguez pulled off a double steal.

"That's just some of the little



Boston's Johnny Damon, left, and Dave McCabe lament Tuesday's 11-3 loss at Yankee Stadium that dropped the Red Sox to 27-27 since April. Boston led the AL East by 4½ games in early May.

things that help you win games," Jeter said. "You pick your spots."

Lowe (6-7) allowed a career-high nine runs, although just five were earned.

"They beat us pretty much in every facet of the game," Lowe said.

Following a 15-6 start, the Red Sox have gone 27-27 since April, putting pressure on themselves to keep pace.

"We have to do better," Boston manager Terry Francona said.

Vazquez (9-5) lost twice to Boston in April. This time, he matched his season best with eight strikeouts, allowing three runs and seven hits in 6½ innings.

In other AL games on Tuesday:

**Athletics 5, Angels 4:** In Oakland, Calif., Bobby Crosby hit a go-ahead two-run single in the seventh against Francisco Rodriguez to help Mark Mulder (10-2) win his career-best eighth straight decision.

Mulder is unbeaten in 11 starts since losing at Yankee Stadium on April 28. He allowed nine hits

and four runs, struck out eight and walked three in seven innings — barely outpacing Angels starter Kelvin Escobar.

Octavio Dotel pitched a perfect ninth for his first save in two opportunities with his new team.

**Mariners 4, Rangers 3:** Rich Aurilia hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning and Joel Pinciro won his third straight decision.

Trailing 3-1, the host Mariners got a sacrifice fly from Bret Boone before Aurilia homered to beat Joaquin Benoit (2-3).

Pinciro (4-5) pitched seven innings and struck out a season-high nine. Eddie Guardado got his 15th save.

**Blue Jays 4, Devil Rays 0:** Ted Lilly (7-4) didn't allow a run over six-plus innings to win his fifth straight road decision and Eric Hinske stole home for Toronto.

Hinske stole home on the front end of a double steal during a two-run first as the Blue Jays sent the Devil Rays to only their third loss in 19 games. Josh Phelps homered for Toronto.

**White Sox 6, Twins 2:** Mark Buehrle (8-2) gave up eight hits and two runs in eight innings to improve to 13-4 against the Twins and lead visiting Chicago into first place in the AL Central.

Jose Valentin hit a solo home run, and Juan Uribe added a two-run shot for the White Sox, who beat Carlos Silva (8-5).

**Tigers 9, Indians 7 (11):** Dntri Young's two-run homer in the bottom of the 11th gave the Tigers their season-high fifth straight victory.

It was the Tigers' third straight game-ending home run. Eric Munson's solo shot in the ninth beat Arizona on Saturday, and Carlos Pena's grand slam in the ninth led the Tigers past the Diamondbacks the next day.

**Royals 4, Orioles 3:** Desi Relaford broke a 3-1 tie in the sixth with an RBI double as the host Royals ended a five-game losing streak.

Sidney Ponson (3-11) lost his eighth straight decision and leads the majors in losses.

# Gagne, Dodgers get revenge against rival Giants

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Los Angeles Dodgers wanted to put last week's disastrous performance in San Francisco behind them as quickly as possible — perhaps by Paul Lo Duca and Eric Gagne.

Jayson Werth hit a tying homer and scored the go-ahead run on Lo Duca's eighth-inning single, leading the Dodgers to a 2-1 victory over the Giants on Tuesday night. Gagne got three outs for his 19th save, extending his consecutive saves streak to 82.

"We got spanked up there and got our butts kicked. They



stomped us, and we weren't ready. So to win this game is big," Lo Duca said. "We've still got two more games against these guys and we've got to face their best (Jason Schmidt) on Thursday."

The Dodgers and Giants resumed their rivalry following last week's four-game sweep by the Giants at San Francisco. In the series finale, Giants outfielder Michael Tucker got upset about a high pitch over the middle of the plate from Gagne and triggered a bench-clearing episode that resulted in ejections for both players.

That incident came one day after the benches cleared after pitcher Jeff Weaver covered first base on a grounder by Tucker, and Tucker took exception to Weaver's high tag as both players got there simultaneously. There were no such extracurricular activities this time, however.

"We're professionals. This game has nothing to do with what happened before. We wanted to

get a game back in the standings, and that's what it's all about," Gagne said. "We know we have a good team. We didn't show up in San Francisco, and now it's time to show them that we can play."

Werth, who tied it in the fifth with his fourth home run, greeted reliever Jim Brower (5-9) with a leadoff single in the eighth and advanced on a sacrifice by pinch-hitter Alex Cora.

Scott Eyre came in and walked pinch-hitter David Ross. Felix Rodriguez came in and got Cesar Izturis to ground into a fielder's choice, putting runners at the corners. The Dodgers then lined a 1-1 pitch to left to score Werth.

Guillermo Mota (4-3) got the win with two scoreless innings, including two timely double plays, before Gagne closed it out and put the third-place Dodgers within 2½ games of the NL West-leading Giants.

San Francisco right-hander Jerome Williams missed his scheduled outing because of mild tendinitis in his shoulder, and lefty Noah Lowry came out of the bullpen to make his third big league start.

He allowed a run and two hits

over seven innings, struck out nine and walked one.

In other NL games on Tuesday:

**Pirates 3, Cardinals 0:** Rookie left-hander Sean Burnett shut out visiting St. Louis for six innings in his first major league victory, and Mike Lirio earned two wins.

Burnett (1-2) outpitched Chris Carpenter (8-3), and the Pirates matched a season-high with their fourth straight victory.

**Phillies 17, Expos 7:** At Philadelphia, Bobby Abreu and David Bell homered and drove in three runs apiece, and the Phillies got 17 hits.

Jimmy Rollins also had three RBIs, Claudio Polanco homered and scored twice, and pinch-hitter Tomas Perez added a two-run shot in the eighth. Bell, who hit for the cycle Monday, scored three runs and had an RBI single.

Eric Milton (10-2) allowed seven runs on seven hits in five innings, but moved to 1-4 for the major league lead in victories.

**Mets 7, Reds 5:** Cliff Floyd hit two of New York's three homers and drove in four runs. Ty Wiggin-ton added a two-run shot as the

visiting Mets beat Todd Van Poppel (3-3).

Ken Griffey Jr. was a late scratch for the Reds because of cramps in his left calf, but had a pinch-hit single to snap a career-worst 0-for-24 slump.

**Marlins 5, Braves 4:** Mike Lowell and Miguel Cabrera hit back-to-back homers in Atlanta, while Josias Manzanillo (1-1) got his first victory in 2½ years.

The Marlins, who won for the second time in six games, stayed in a first-place tie in the NL East with Philadelphia.

**Cubs 7, Astros 5:** Craig Biggio dropped Moises Alou's flyball, allowing two runs to score in the seventh inning.

After Carlos Beltran put Houston ahead 5-4 in the top of the seventh, Chicago came back against David Weathers (5-4) and Dan Mischak, who retired Sammy Sosa before Biggio's error.

**Brewers 6, Rockies 3:** Chad Moeller hit his first career grand slam, and Chris Capuano (3-3) gave up one run on four hits and struck out six in six innings to help Milwaukee end a nine-game losing streak in Colorado.



# Johnson fans 4,000th, but D-backs lose

BY MEL REISNER

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — The word "bittersweet" kept coming up when Randy Johnson talked about reaching 4,000 career strikeouts.

Johnson joined Nolan Ryan, Roger Clemens and Steve Carlton as the only pitchers to reach the milestone, and still couldn't change the Arizona Diamondbacks' luck.

The Diamondbacks lost their franchise-record 11th straight game, 3-2 to the San Diego Padres on Tuesday night.

"I just really wanted to enjoy this as much as I did the [perfect] game in Atlanta, but it's very hard to enjoy something when you lose a ballgame, because that's all I live for now," Johnson said.

He struck out eight and reached 4,000 strikeouts faster than Ryan (5,714), Clemens (4,200) and Carlton (4,136).

Johnson (9-6) fanned Jeff Cirillo for the second out of the eighth inning, reaching 4,000 in 3,237<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings, a strikeout-to-inning ratio of 11.12. None of the others had a double-figure ratio, with Ryan's 9.55 the next-best based on 3,844<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings.

"Those are three of the greatest pitchers in the history of the game, and Randy's right there with them — right where he belongs," Diamondbacks manager Bob Brenly said.

Khalil Greene homered off Johnson with one out in the eighth, providing the winning margin for the Padres, who won for the seventh time in eight games.

Greene got all of a fastball and hit it just far enough to bounce off the fence into the grandstand.

"It's just a testament to him and what he's done is pretty cool in itself," Greene said.

Arizona closed within a run on Danny Bautista's solo homer in its half of the eighth off Akinori Otsuka, but again fell short.

The Diamondbacks stranded 10 runners to San Diego's two, leaving the bases loaded in the sixth and eighth.

"I don't think I swung at a strike all night," said catcher Robby Hammock, whose third strikeout ended the eighth. "I wish I would have been able to help him win."

After Terrence Long doubled, Johnson threw three sliders to Cirillo to reach a 2-1 count before blowing a fastball by him to make it 2-2. He missed with a slider to run the count full, and recorded his last strikeout with an 87 mph slider low on the outside corner as Cirillo took a half-swing.

Long was thrown out by Hammock attempting to steal third on the play to end the inning. Johnson tapped fists with Hammock as they walked back to the

Diamondbacks dugout, and the big left-hander waved his cap to the crowd twice, once to his left and then right.

He received high fives in the dugout but went into the clubhouse tunnel later, missing cries from the crowd for a curtain call.

Johnson's spot in the batting order led off the ninth, and pinch-hitter Roberto Alomar singled off closer Trevor Hoffman, reaching third while Hoffman retired Scott Hairston on a pop-up and Steve Finley and Danny Bautista on grounders to Greene at shortstop.

"We were looking for a win and the 4,000 strikeouts, so we could celebrate," Alomar said. "But you stop celebrating when you're losing."

Johnson, whose 196 double-digit strikeout games are second to Ryan's 215, allowed three runs on four hits in eight innings.

Brian Sweeney (1-0) held the Diamondbacks to one run on four hits and a walk in his first major league start after seven relief appearances. Jay Witasick, Scott Linebrink and Otsuka limited Arizona to one run in 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> innings. Hoffman earned his 18th save in 20 chances.

"I'm just glad we won the game," Padres manager Bruce Bochy said. "You see history like that, I'm a fan. To see one of the greatest pitchers of all-time get 4,000 strikeouts, it is a privilege."

The Padres, knowing Johnson would be around the strike zone, started the game swinging early in the count, and it paid in the third when Humberto Quintero singled and Greene doubled, both on the second pitch.

Quintero scored on a sacrifice fly by Cirillo, and Greene made it

2-0, scoring from third when shortstop Alex Cintron booted Mark Loretta's grounder.

Bautista got Arizona's first hit in the fourth, and Sweeney walked Luis Gonzalez. But the threat ended when Shea Hillenbrand popped up and right fielder Brian Giles ran down Chad Tracy's drive against the bullpen fence.

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From left to right, Sgt. Wesley Parkhurst, Spec. Robert Isaacs, Terry Boyd, and Pfc. Michael Greenwood.

# France finds life at top not so easy

## NASCAR's new chairman, CEO trying to simplify rules but meeting resistance

BY MIKE HARRIS  
The Associated Press

For the most part, the first 10 months of Brian France's tenure as boss of NASCAR have been a breeze.

The changeover from longtime sponsor Winston to Nextel in NASCAR's top series has gone smoothly. A major antitrust lawsuit over a second race for the Fort Worth track was settled out of court and played right along with the expected schedule realignment. And a new way of determining the Cup championship — with a 10-race shootout at the end of the season — is already generating excitement.

"I've enjoyed the responsibilities and it's obviously action-packed," France said Tuesday during a teleconference. "We have our work cut out for us, but working with the team we've got, developing new ideas and trying to make racing better, it's been a fun first year for me."

One thing that hasn't been much fun, though, is the reaction of competitors and fans to the first major rule change of France's tenure.

Last fall, shortly after taking over from his father, Bill France Jr. as chairman and CEO of NASCAR, it was announced that drivers would no longer race to the finish line when a yellow flag came out.

Critics had been complaining about that dangerous practice for years and, after a particularly scary moment in which former Cup champion Dale Jarrett's car was stuck in the middle of the track with nearly the entire field bearing down at top speed, the younger France decided to do something about it.

Unfortunately, the change has

caused debate over how to freeze the drivers' positions at the moment the caution flag waves and how soon to open the pit lane during yellows.

There have been a series of confusing rule changes, over long caution periods during races and several mistakes by officials that prompted NASCAR President Mike Helton to issue apologies.

France said NASCAR is well on the way to solving those problems, but he wants to make the rules as simple as possible for everyone.

"The expectations from the drivers, the owners, fans and everybody in the industry is that NASCAR is going to conduct the events in a mistake-free environment," France said. "We all know that that's not humanly possible, although that's our own expectation."

"We have had several mistakes in the last month that we think we've gotten, for the large measure, corrected. We've obviously introduced a more complicated system in terms of freezing the field, although we simplified that in the last two weeks."

Among the recent changes: pit road is now opened only by officials in the control tower, rather than an official at the end of the service lane, and the scoring of the field when a caution is displayed is being done with electronic scoring that shows where every car is at any given moment, removing the human element as much as possible.

More changes are coming. The next big rule change being contemplated, which could be just as controversial and difficult to enforce, is how to make sure races end under a green flag.

Four of the past eight Cup races have ended under caution,



Since taking over for his father, Bill, last fall, NASCAR chairman and CEO Brian France has stopped the practice of racing back to the finish line when the caution flag comes out, and hopes to find a safe solution to keep Nextel Cup races from ending under caution.

meaning that the drivers did not get to race to the finish but ended the day driving slowly behind the pace truck. That didn't make drivers or fans happy.

"We are studying that whole idea of how we might give ourselves more opportunities to finish under a green-flag scenario, which is what we want," France said.

Former series champion Rusty Wallace isn't in favor of an idea that would restart the cars with the white one-lap-to-go flag and green displayed simultaneously.

"I don't agree with that and I'll be the first one poliolecting that you shouldn't do that," Wallace said last week. "All these race fans drinking beer and screaming and hollering have not been in a helicopter upside down with 30 tubes hanging out of you after going end-over-end 30 times like I've been before because of these

green-white starts. I think it's ridiculous and it's unsafe."

The truck series has a rule that requires what the drivers call a green-white-checkered finish. With the white flag signifying one lap to go, following a late caution flag, the truck drivers are assured two racing laps to the finish.

"I know that we have [a system] that works in the trucks series but, remember, those are shorter races and we're having to factor in a number of other things," said France, the grandson of NASCAR founder Bill France Sr.

"We will make a decision if it promotes better racing or safety or anything that we think improves the industry. In 53 years of managing the sport, we know what the drivers are up against in terms of finishing under green. Most of them have said recently they'd support some version of [green-white-checkered]."

# Driver Unser Jr. retires

## Two-time Indy 500 winner, 42, says he's no longer having fun

BY MICHAEL MAROT  
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Two-time Indy 500 winner Al Unser Jr. retired Wednesday because he was no longer having fun as a driver.

Unser also won two CART championships, but struggled in recent years and had little success since joining the IRL series in 2000.

"I have always said that I would get out of the race car if driving stopped being fun for me and I felt that I was no longer competitive on the track," Unser said. "After careful thought, I came to this conclusion just after the Richmond race and knew that it was time for me to retire."

Unser Jr.



Unser said he would stay with Patrick Racing as an adviser. The team said it would select a replacement driver later.

He worked for several months to find a ride for this season after breaking his pelvis last October when he was thrown from an all-terrain vehicle in New Mexico. After months of rehabilitation, Unser signed with Patrick Racing in March but missed the first three races of the IRL season.

Unser had three IRL starts this year, never finishing in the top 10. His final race was last Saturday at Richmond, where he ended up 22nd.

Unser won the closest Indy 500, defeating Scott Goodyear by 0.043 seconds in 1992. His other Indy victory came in 1994 when he won from the pole and beat Jacques Villeneuve by 8.6 seconds.

The 42-year-old from Albuquerque, N.M., was the second-generation star from one of auto racing's most famous families: he is the son of four-time Indy winner Al Unser Sr. and nephew of three-time winner Bobby Unser.

"Very few race drivers will ever accomplish as much on the race track as Al has during his career," Indianapolis Motor Speedway President Tony George said. "As a competitor he has upheld the Unser tradition and added balance to their legacy during the last 20-plus years."

# Stewart fined \$50,000, docked 25 Cup points

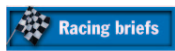
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Tony Stewart avoided suspension Wednesday when NASCAR fined him \$50,000 and docked him championship points for his altercation with Brian Vickers.

Stewart lost 25 points in the driver standings, car owner Joe Gibbs lost 25 points in the owner standings, and Stewart was also placed on probation until Aug. 18. "This action we've taken speaks for itself," NASCAR President Mike Helton said. "Tony Stewart is well aware of what is



Stewart



expected of him going forward."

Stewart would have been suspended for Saturday night's race at Daytona International Speedway for his latest infraction. But NASCAR declined to park him for a race, which saves the 2002 series champion's bid for the Nextel Cup championship.

He did not immediately comment about his penalty. Vickers was knocked out of Sunday's race in California following contact from Stewart. After the race, Vickers said Stewart came to his car window and confronted him.

Vickers said the two were discussing the on-track contact and Vickers began to laugh about it.

He claimed that Stewart then reached for him inside the car and "knocked the breath out of me."

"He hit the armrest and he reached in the car and he grabbed me in the chest and when he did hit me, it was kind of open palm," Vickers said after the race. "My team grabbed him and pulled him off of me."

Missing a race would have crippled Stewart in his bid for the cup championship. Under NASCAR's new points system, only the top 10 drivers in the standings and anyone else within 400 points of the leader will be eligible to race for the title over the final 10 races of the season.

Stewart, who was fifth in the standings and 307 points behind leader Jimmie Johnson, drops to sixth in the standings after the penalty and is 332 points back.

## R. Schumacher faces long break after U.S. crash

STUTTGART, Germany — Ralf Schumacher will miss up to 12 weeks after tests showed he fractured two vertebrae in a crash during the U.S. Grand Prix in Indianapolis.

If all goes well, the Williams BMW driver could return for the season's final two races in Japan on Oct. 10 and in Brazil two weeks later.

Schumacher, 29, the younger brother of world champion Michael Schumacher, sustained the fractures and a severe concussion after crashing June 20 at Indianapolis.

Spanish leader Marc Gené will replace Schumacher in this weekend's French Grand Prix, the Williams team said. A decision on who will replace Schumacher in future races this season will be made later.



## SPORTS



Blockbuster swapping  
McGrady for Francis  
goes through, Page 27



# Williams slams Capriati

## Rivalry match one-sided; Roddick wins 'dogfight'

BY STEPHEN WILSON

The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — In a match that never lived up to expectations, two-time defending champion Serena Williams beat a listless Jennifer Capriati 6-1, 6-1 in 45 minutes Wednesday to advance to the Wimbledon semifinals.

Andy Roddick had a much tougher test to reach the men's semis, outslugging Sjeng Schalken 7-6 (4), 7-6 (9), 6-3. The second-seeded American, who hasn't lost a set in five matches, served 18 aces and closed out the match with a leaping overhead.

"It was a dogfight," Roddick said. "He's doesn't look spectacular, but he's a great player."

Roddick advances to meet Croatia's

20-year-old Mario Ancic, who upset fifth-seeded Tim Henman 7-6 (5), 6-4, 6-2. Roddick is 3-0 against Ancic, including a three-set win on grass at Queen's Club last month.

In another men's quarterfinal, defending champion Roger Federer beat 2002 champ Lleyton Hewitt 6-1, 6-7 (1), 6-0, 6-4. Hewitt double-faulted on match point, ending the quarterfinal after three rain delays in 2 hours, 19 minutes.

Roddick's match featured a compelling 20-point second-set tiebreaker in which he saved three set points, ripped forehand winners, hit a tournament-best 146 mph serve and connected on big second serves.

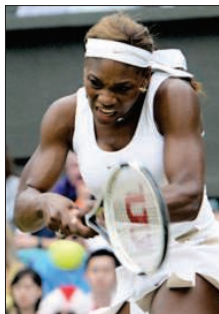
Roddick, who was never broken, saved three break points in the first game of the third set. After a second rain delay at 1-1,

he got the only service break of the match with a forehand pass to go up 4-2. He served out the match at love, starting with his 18th ace and ending with a searing smash reminiscent of Pete Sampras during his run of seven Wimbledon titles.

"The power Andy has, the ball's coming at you — you don't have any time to react," the 12th-seeded Schalken said. "That's something very special. He doesn't have a weakness, I think."

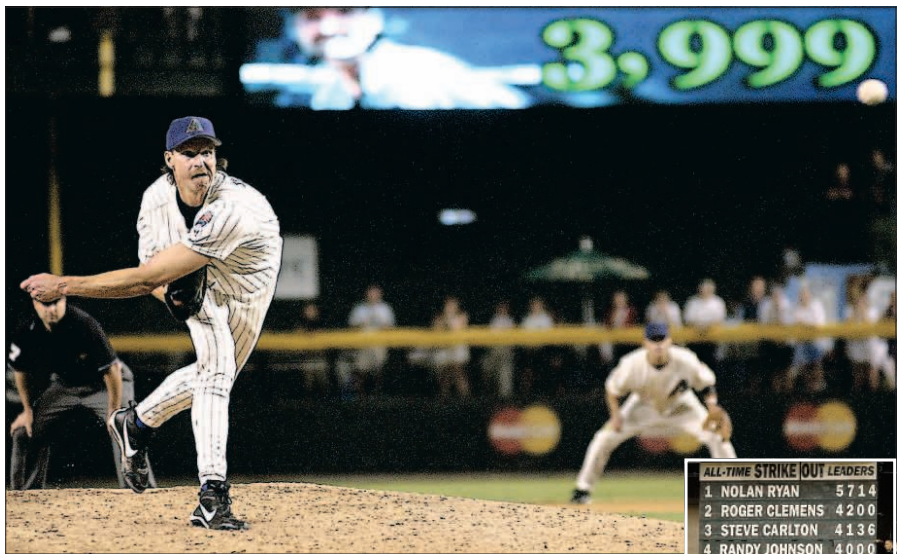
Williams and Capriati have built one of the best rivalries in women's tennis, but this Centre Court match was completely one-sided. The 13,000-capacity stadium was one-third empty and guests in the Royal Box barely had time to settle in their seats before it was all over.

SEE SLAMS ON PAGE 26



Defending champ Serena Williams dispatched Jennifer Capriati in just 45 minutes.

## Fourth, fastest to 4,000



Diamondbacks pitcher Randy Johnson delivers his 4,000th strikeout pitch to the Padres' Jeff Cirillo during the eighth inning on Tuesday at Bank One Ballpark in Phoenix. Johnson became only the fourth player to reach 4,000 strikeouts in a career, and a sign in the stadium shows an updated career list (right). See story on Page 30.

### ALL-TIME STRIKE OUT LEADERS

1	NOLAN RYAN	5 714
2	ROGER CLEMENS	4 200
3	STEVE CARLTON	4 136
4	RANDY JOHNSON	4 000
5	BERT BLYLEVEN	3 701
6	TOM SEAVER	3 640
7	DON SUTTON	3 574

Not having fun racing, two-time Indy winner Unser retires Page 31